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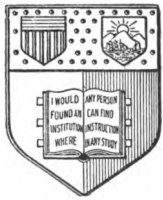

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST,

AND

SUBURBAN HORTICULTURIST.

CONDUCTED BY

JOHN FREDERICK WOOD, F.H.S.

VOL. III.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1849.

"To study culture, and with artful toil,
To meliorate and tame the stubborn soil;
To give dissimilar, yet fruitful lands,
The grain, or herb, or plant that each demands;
To cherish virtue in an humble state,
And share the joys your bounty may create;
To mark the matchless workings of the power
That shuts within its seed the future flower;
Bids these in form of elegance excel,
In colour these, and those delight the smell;
Sends nature forth, the daughter of the skies,
To dance on earth, and charm all human eyes;
To teach the canvass innocent deceit,
Or lay the landscape on the snowy sheet.—
These, these are arts pursued without a crime,
That leave no stain upon the wing of time."

COWPER.

LONDON:

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT.

1849.

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST.

Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE PINK.

BY DR. HORNER, OF HULL.

THE communication of your correspondent, R. M., of Newcastle-under-Lyme, is calculated grievously to mislead young florists; and in their minds, at least, to unsettle the question of the standard of perfection in the pink.

With all courtesy of feeling, I would beg to assure R. M., that he, and those florists at Newcastle who, he says, think as he does, are far wide in their knowledge of what really constitutes perfection in this flower. In the first place, he greatly makes his own difficulties, in supposing that well-informed florists have not a definite conception of what a perfect pink should be; alas, for the nineteenth century, were it really so! Yet it must be confessed, that we sometimes see individuals assume the office of teachers,

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in respect to this, as well as to other flowers, who evidently have themselves much to learn.

R. M. errs in finding fault with Mr. Lightbody, where he describes the petals of the pink as "gently cupped," "gracefully cupped," &c.; for, if he reflect, he will perceive that such a contour of the petal is necessary, both for its individual correct standing on the flower, and also for its supporting character of the tier of petals above. Moreover, if a petal be somewhat inclined to cup, it implies that it is itself round, an essential form; for it is only the pointed shaped petal that droops, or inclines back. By "cupping" of the petal, in the pink, is meant little more than a tendency to look up, or inwards; and such an inclination is really required in the carnation, picotee, and pink; and is, in truth, always and necessarily present in a round-petaled and well-standing flower.

But your correspondent commits a grave error, when he says that the white margin beyond the lacing of the pink is a defect! Let him be assured that it is the most graceful property that the flower can have. Mr. Glenny, a fair judge of the properties of a flower, says, the white margin beyond the lacing should be as broad as the lacing itself. In this he is quite right; and if R. M. has seen the portraiture of Young's XX, in the ninth number of *Beck's Florist* (a work which I would recommend to all), he must be satisfied that it is indeed a great attraction; and, doubtless, ere long, it will be considered, even at Newcastle, an essential feature in a perfect flower. In the progress of the improvement which is now being effected in the pink, this property is freely developing itself; it already, indeed, exists, though in a very limited degree, even in our commonest garden varieties.

Again, R. M. asks, why should a pink have a white margin round its petals, more than the tulip, or picotee? The answer is simple enough:—just because a pink is not a tulip, nor yet a picotee!

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Your correspondent is also unfortunate in his ideas on the subject of the colour of the lacing, when he contends that perfection consists in the darkness of the purple. A light purple, if pure and decided, is equally good; and were dark purple only sought after, all the pleasing effects of variety in a collection, would be lost. In truth, if the purple be clear and decided, it becomes a mere matter of taste which is prefered. As to the red-laced variety, the more vivid and bright the red the better.

If R. M. will accept the definition of a pink from one who may possibly be allowed to give an opinion, I beg to add, let it consist of not less than four, and not more than five rows of petals, which are round, broad, stout, and wholly free from serrature, and which have a gentle inclination to cupping, or looking upwards; the calyx being of sufficient length just to reach to and support the lowest row. Such a form of petal ensures roundness of the flower, of course an essential property. Each succeeding tier of petals should be less in size, as they gradually approach the centre; rising step by step above each other, and thus forming at length a symmetrical, round, and well-crowned flower, in the form of half a round ball. The centre colour, whatever it may be, should be decided, clear, and distinct; and extend so far from the base of the petal as not to be hid by the petal above it; and, in the whole flower, constitute a rich eye. The white should also be unclouded, and untinted by the ground centre colour, or by the lacing, and should stand well out in relief. The lacing should be unbroken, and should extend in equal breadth round the petal; its colour, whether light or dark purple, or red, being clear and decided: while beyond it, and occupying the extreme edge of the petal, should there be a pure white border or lacing, of equal breadth with the coloured lacing itself, and extending round the whole petal.

Such a flower would, I am satisfied, give unconceived delight to your correspondent. Let him, and

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all, aim at the free development of nature, in the white margin. It is already obtained, indeed, to a certain extent, in a few of the best and most esteemed flowers in the south; and ere long, the white margin will, by all, be thought as much an essential as the coloured lacing itself.

EXPERIMENTS IN PLANTING POTATOES,

WITH

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PREVALENT DISEASE.

BY MR. JOHN WALKER, MANSFIELD, NOTTS.

BEING deeply impressed with the conviction that every one should add his mite to the stock of information calculated to elucidate the mystery which enshrouds the potato disease, I am induced to send you the result of a few experiments which I made during the past season; and if any hint here thrown out will lead others to make similar trials, or cast any light on the subject, my end will be answered.

Last spring, I procured samples of different varieties from Yorkshire, Lancashire, Northampton, and other places. The ground allotted for experiment was about a hundred and forty-four square yards, and a good dark hazel loam, on a stronger subsoil, or what is usually termed "limestone land" with us. On this I grew about eighteen varieties, and treated them in the following manner:—

Cash-in-hand—(We think this *a good name to begin with.)*—I had out of Yorkshire. Planted four inches in depth, and covered about two inches thick with a vegetable soil, composed of decayed pea haulm and spent lime, *they were quite free from disease.*

Thoresby's Seedlings I tried several ways.—1st Row. On the old-fashioned system, with fresh manure, covering with soil. This row was decidedly bad.

2nd Row. With strong soil, inclining to red clay. This too was very bad.

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3rd Row. With road scrapings and wood ashes. These were much better than the above.

4th Row. These were treated with the refuse of my winter greens, chopped into lengths of about two inches, spread in the drill, and the potatoes planted on it, covering with light soil. These were *entirely free from disease*, though the tubers were smaller than 1 and 2. The quality, however, was excellent.

The remainder of this variety (Thoresby's Seedling) were planted in decayed vegetable soil, to which was added a a small quantity of crushed bones and other animal matter. Of these, about one-third were diseased.

Early Strawberry.—1st Row. Dressed and planted in wood ashes, charred vegetables, and spent lime. Quite free, with the exception of some three or four tubers.

2nd Row. Planted with fresh manure. Very bad indeed.

3rd Row. With old manure. One-half diseased.

4th Row. Old manure, with soot strewed over, when covered up with soil. Only one-fifth bad.

Rilott's Flour Ball.—The first row, in decayed vegetables, in which a good portion of salt had been mixed when green, were not more than *one-tenth* diseased: whilst the very next row, planted in a similar manner, only that bones, &c. had been mixed with it, instead of salt, were one-half bad.

Engineers, planted in similar soil to the first row of Flour Balls, were entirely free, with the exception of three tubers in the two rows.

Winter Pink Eyes, and *Radicals*, from Lancashire, planted in a similar compost to the Engineers and Flour Ball No. 1, with the addition of a *few wood ashes*, were perfectly sound.

Soden's Early Oxford and *Tinley's Early.*—Wood ashes, leaf mould, peat, and a little lime. A most beautiful clear sample.

Fortyfold.—Planted in decayed vegetables, mixed with salt. Nearly free, not more than one in twenty, and these but slightly. Another row, with old manure, about one-twelfth.

Farmer's Glory.—With manure, *very bad;* with decayed vegetables and bones, one-half bad. This appears to be a variety very subject to disease.

Hague's Seedling.—With manure, a very heavy crop, but sadly diseased; and with equal parts manure and vegetable soil, half were affected. This is a very fine flavoured sort, but with me the tops were too long, and the tubers lay far from the stem; qualities which I by no means admire.

Regents.—One row, planted with vegetable mould and salt, were nearly free; whilst two rows, planted with night soil (privy manure), wood ashes, and leaf mould, were nearly all bad, and exhibited symptoms of disease very early in the season. The same results were produced with two other varieties, planted in a similar manner.

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Repealers, with manure, were very bad. And I may here observe, that a few *Early Strawberries*, planted where a small heap of manure had lain, last winter, and covered with peat, that had been dried in the sun, *were a very heavy crop*, and entirely free from disease.

From the above experiments, I am fully established in my opinion, as given in the leading article, in the commencement of the January number for 1848, "that manure is decidedly injurious to the potato, if used in the manner too generally adopted;" and I hope also to be able to prove, to the satisfaction of your readers, the fallacy of the idea, "that the potato is worn out, and that its culture ought to be relinquished;" which idea I hold to be decidedly wrong.

[We consider the above to be very important experiments. More particularly so as they were made side by side, covering only an area of one hundred and forty-four square yards, and therefore subject alike to every atmospheric influence, &c. The subject is of such serious import, that we trust our readers will give us any *facts*, of a similar character, that may come under their observation. We may just observe here, that we planted Early Strawberries, Tinley's Earlies, Engineers, and some others, received from Mr. Walker, on two-year old decayed turf, without manure, and we have not a sound potato amongst them.—ED. *M. F.*]

SUGGESTIONS ON MANAGING AND HYBRIDIZING THE YELLOW PICOTEE.

BY ALPHA.

THE energetic address in a recent number of the *Midland Florist*, from the pen of Dr. Horner, urging an extended cultivation of the yellow picotee, and the raising of seedlings from that variety, has aroused the dormant energies of several florists, hitherto indifferent to this neglected flower, but who now only

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await the proper season to commence the work; and it is truly gratifying to perceive a prospect of this golden gem being elevated, by their labours, to the position to which its beautiful tints so justly entitle it.

In the estimation of the fair sex, the picotee has long held a prominent place; their keen perception of its chaste marking induced a preference over its more gaudy rival, the carnation; and it is presumed, that the variety now under consideration will, in an improved state, find equal favour at their hands.

As some time must necessarily elapse before a commencement can be made, a few hints, principally for the guidance of the uninitiated, may be found useful; and in drawing their attention to the subject, I would strongly urge the necessity of making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the natural habit of the plants I am now noticing. They are not a robust class, capable of enduring, without protection, the vicissitudes of our climate; but are a delicate race, extremely difficult of cultivation, and frequently rendered more so by unskilful treatment.

The raising of seedlings may be considered the most important point in the undertaking; and a few suggestions concerning their management may not prove unacceptable. I will suppose them to be sufficiently advanced in growth to be ready for transplanting, when, at this period, no marked difference is discernable between those saved from the yellow picotee and other classes. This circumstance, however must not lead the cultivator to suppose that less care is requisite; but, on the contrary, a more watchful attention is necessary. The influence of summer will naturally produce a generous growth; and yet, a brief space of time will suffice to dispel the illusion, and prove their vigorous appearance to be unnatural, and by no means to be considered a criterion of hardiness. Autumnal rains, and the usually humid atmosphere, often succeeded by frosty nights, will prove a severer test than any hitherto experienced;

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and it will be then perceived whether they can maintain the same healthy appearance under these changes. Another circumstance is familiar to every raiser of this class of florists' flowers,—that seedling plants exhibit a luxuriance of growth the first season, which rarely occurs afterwards. To imagine, therefore, that the seedlings, when planted out as others usually are, will be sufficiently hardy to endure the changes of our climate, will be to foster a fallacy, and lead to disappointment, as well as destroy all chance of success. It is essentially necessary that a dry situation be selected, and air given on all favourable opportunities. Wintering the seedlings in pots, well drained, and using a light sandy soil; also being prepared with protection against sudden frost, and the usually humid atmosphere prevalent during the months of November and December, are precautions to be borne in mind, in order to secure successful cultivation, until a hardier constitution be attained than the one which characterizes the present race.

The enthusiastic cultivator must not expect his efforts to be successful, or his expectations realized, with the first experiment. "Perseverance" must be his motto; for perfection is not attained at one step. The serrated edge and irregular marking have to be removed, and the motly assemblage of colours reduced; whilst in their stead is to be substituted a rose petal, with the colour confined to its edge, which must be a work of time. If, however, *one* point be attained, and that a perceptible improvement, the cultivator may take his stand among the successful competitors for future honour, a circumstance sufficient for renewed exertions.

I am willing to hope, that the uncertain style of marking will not prove universal; but possibly some may be found to advance a little beyond it, and if they possess a petal approximating to the white ground class, they will prove good varieties from which to save seed.

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Having proceeded thus far, I conceive the following plan, under distinct heads, will be eligible for the purpose I have in view:—

First.—Saving seed from yellow selfs, hybridized with the yellow picotee; and, for experiment's sake, reversing the parents, whenever it will not have a tendency to reduce colour.

Secondly.—From two yellow ground picotees.

Thirdly.—From deep coloured yellow selfs, hybridized with the highest coloured white ground picotees, of the several classes of red, purple, and rose, using the pollen from those flowers which are particularly distinguished by a steady style of marking, and not intermingling light and heavy edge.

Fourthly.—From yellow picotees, hybridized as in No. 3.

The following white ground varieties are well calculated for the purpose of hybridizing, as they are all of first-rate excellence:—Headly's King James and Venus; May's Portia, Sebastian, and Juliet; Marris's Prince of Wales and Prince Albert; Ely's Emperor and Mrs. Lilly; Norman's Beauty; Matthews's Enchantress; Cox's Regina; Wood's Princess Alice; Gatliff's Regina; and Mrs. Bevan. There are several other good varieties, but I presume those I have enumerated will be found sufficient to commence with.

The process of hybridizing being so generally understood, it appears scarcely necessary to advert to it here; but I beg to observe, that as soon as the bloom is expanded, it should be covered with a piece of gauze, or other light material, in order to prevent the bees from anticipating the work, and rendering the operation nugatory.

Each cultivator should also record with minuteness the seed-bearing plants, and those from which the pollen was taken, as well as the different traits possessed by each seedling.

It will also be desirable to ascertain the names of

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a few of the best varieties cultivated; and probably some growers may be induced to further the present project, by furnishing a descriptive list of yellow picotees, setting forth their particular properties. This is a desiderata I am unable to supply, and as it is undoubtedly an important adjunct, I trust this request will be complied with.

In the estimation of some cultivators of the picotee, the foregoing remarks may be considered rather to impede than to advance the project I am advocating; but I beg to observe, such is not my intention; for I have endeavoured to point out the difficulties, in order that they may be known and avoided. The more operators, the sooner the desired end will be attained. And here I particularly caution the tyro against deciding on the merits of his own productions; but I would advise him to forward them to the editor of the *Midland Florist*, and to some eminent metropolitan grower, who would faithfully point out their merits and imperfections.

HARDY CLIMBING PLANTS.

No. IV

BY THE EDITOR.

INDEPENDENT of the beautiful tribes which we partially described in our last year's volume, we shall now continue the series, by noticing some others, which call for particular attention. Some very beautiful additions have been made of late years, which are expected to bear this climate, and which we hope, during the summer, to announce, they being now under experiment. As a fine plant for a trellis, we may mention the

Pyrus Japonica. (Japanese Crab.)—Though not, strictly speaking, "a climbing plant," still its long flexile shoots may be trained to cover a large space; and producing, as it does, its large crimson flowers at a time of the year when there are

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few out-door plants in bloom, it is rendered doubly attractive, and we can safely recommend it. Independent of its flowers, the fruit, which is a misshapen-looking production, is remarkable for its austerity; still it has been lately tried, in the same way as the quince, for marmalade, and is found to be even superior to that fruit for the purpose.

Pyrus Japonica alba (the white-flowering variety of the above), is similar in growth, form, and time of flowering; and though very interesting, is not so showy as the preceding.

In addition, there is the semi-double pink, more rare than the two above mentioned, but adapted for the same purposes. They make fine pillar plants, and are perfectly hardy.

As a ligneous climber of great beauty, we may mention the

Ampelopsis hederacea, better known as the *Virginian Creeper*.—Though introduced into this country more than two hundred years ago, it is not seen so often as it ought to be. As a climber that will bear the smoke of towns, it is invaluable. It is also extremely rapid in its growth, attaching itself to walls, like ivy. In autumn, the leaves assume a blood colour, varied with dark purple, which render it very attractive and handsome. In addition to these advantages, it is cheap and easily propagated.

Wistaria Chinensis, or *Glycine Chinensis*, is, as we have before observed, a splendid plant, and one that cannot be too highly recommended. As a hardy woody climber, it has few, if any, rivals. Its leaves are shaped somewhat like those of the common ash; and the flowers are produced in large and long bunches, similar to the laburnum. For covering the side of a house, training over porches, verandas, wireworks, &c. it is indeed highly prizable. We have suggested that it would make a fine pillar plant; or, twisted round an iron rod, till it attained the height of ten feet, the shoots might be pinched, to induce them to form a compact weeping head, the pendent branches of which would soon reach the ground, and thus form an ornamental tree, of no ordinary character. We have had one trained in a similar manner, in our nursery, which has bloomed beautifully this summer. If a suitable stock cannot be found, to graft this most excellent plant on, we are sure it will well pay nurserymen to train it as we have indicated.

To the above may be added a variety with white flowers, introduced by Mr. Fortune, from China, It is as yet, scarce, and whether it will be so beautiful as the one with blue flowers, has yet to be proved.

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Mr. Fortune says, "the bunches of flowers are very long, and it forms a fine contrast." Of this we make no doubt, and when sufficiently common, we hope to see them trained together.

Wistaria frutescens, or *Shrubby Wistaria*, is a plant of the same family as the preceding, but not so rapid in its growth, nor will it attain so great a height. It will, however, reach twenty feet, and bears light purple flowers. Another advantage possessed by this plant is, that the flowers are sweet scented.

We may just observe here, that when these plants are transplanted, unless they have been established in pots, and are turned out into the border with the ball of soil entire, they are apt to remain stationary for a year or two, and thus cause a little disappointment; but when established, their rapid growth and beauty will compensate for the delay.

Jasminum officinale (The Jasmine) is a favourite with every one who knows it, and, like the Virginian Creeper, may be planted in towns, and will be found extremely useful for covering blank walls, &c. The flowers, which are white, and beautifully scented, are especially prized by the fair sex. It is of ready cultivation, and grows rapidly when well established. We have seen walls, twenty feet high, covered with this beautiful plant.

There are several varieties of this species. Of these, we possess one with leaves variegated with yellow, another with white, and several that have not yet bloomed with us, which have been raised from seed on the Continent.

Of yellow-flowering jasmines, there is *Jasminum revolutum*, which will hardly bear the winter of the northern counties; but

Jasminum chrysanthemum will, and is most profuse in the production of its bright yellow flowers.

Jasminum nudiflorum we have also proved to be perfectly hardy, producing its pretty golden flowers before the leaves make their appearance in the spring. This also makes a good plant for the frame, or greenhouse.

Jasminum pubigerum, or *Wallachianum*, is a very strong and robust variety. The flowers are yellow, and the leaves large and handsome. A most desirable plant for a wall.

From the preceding descriptions, we trust our

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readers will be enabled to select those which will suit their respective localities. A dry and warm situation will be most proper for them. Borders under the drip of eaves are unsuitable; few things will flourish in such situations.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF THE BALSAM,

IN POTS AND THE OPEN BORDER.

THERE are few plants that will more amply repay the trouble and attention bestowed upon their cultivation than the balsam. The many beautiful varieties that have lately been originated, of almost every shade of colour, and the simple treatment required in raising them, renders it well worthy the attention of every cultivator of flowers, particularly those who, like myself, have taken advantage of the reduction in the price of glass, and have a pit, or small greenhouse, at command. It may be grown to its greatest perfection in the greenhouse; but it may also be grown with abundant success in the open air. The method of treatment is as follows:—The soil should be composed of about one-half willow dust (that is the decomposed vegetable matter that may be found in the stumps of old willow trees), and the other half some of the contents of an old cucumber bed, well mixed together, and run through a coarse sieve. The time of sowing is from the middle of March to the middle of April. As soon as they are sown, the pots should be plunged into bottom heat, and the plants will appear in about six or eight days. When they get into the rough leaf, they should be transplanted into sixty-sized pots, and then regularly shifted into larger pots, till they get into peck pots, when they will attain an immense size. All the blooms should be pulled off, until the plants have attained their full growth. Care must be taken that

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they have a regular and plentiful supply of water. The best time for watering is early in the morning; and if, during the hot weather, a few pans full of water is thrown on the outside of the glass, about the middle of the day, it will render the atmosphere in the inside cool and pleasant.

Those who wish to try them in the open air, may pursue the same plan as for the greenhouse, until the plants get into quart pots. About the latter end of May, a bed should be prepared, of good soil, mixed with rotten dung, and dug a good depth, when the plants may be turned out of the pots, and planted about a yard asunder. If a little taste is displayed in arranging the colours, a most splendid effect will be produced, as they continue flowering until cut off by the frost, which seldom takes place till October.

Should you deem the above remarks worthy a place in your valuable little periodical, they are at your disposal.

W. R.

ON IMPROVING FLORICULTURAL PRIZES.

HAVING been flatteringly successful in my several appeals to the floral fancy, for support towards this or that "fund," as the case might be, it is with feelings of much pride I read in your last number of the *Midland Florist*, a hearty call for donations towards a "Carnation and Picotee Prize Improvement Fund," adopting *my own title*—(see Pansy Prize Improvement Fund, last May; and Dahlia Prize Improvement Fund, last September);—and fully testing, as did these two exhibitions, by so glorious a result, the soundness of the then experiment, how can I refrain from offering my mite to so good a work, and in so good a cause? Therefore, add my name to the list of "good men and true," to the extent of one pound, payable whenever required. Rely on it, from the

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experience I have had in collecting these "*Prize Improvement Funds*," that a glorious day awaits you, come when it may. While on the subject, Mr. Beck, in his pelargonium article, in the December number of the *Florist*, roundly states that the dahlia and pansy can each have its exhibition fund, and asks, why should pelargonium raisers remain satisfied? Why indeed? Why should either amateurs or dealers in ANY florists' flower rest satisfied, until that support be given which their several favourites require? *Support will be given*, if solicited, and *its requirements shown. I never found it denied;* all were too well pleased at the opportunity to let it pass. I applied, two seasons since, to Mr. Lawrence, of Hampton, and Mr. Willmer, of Sunbury, for a few tulip root prizes, to be added to society's money prizes; their liberality upon that occasion is well known. Upon repeating the application, this past season, the same generosity was displayed; and *will be* again, if needed. Fifteen pounds were collected and added to the South London Society's May show, for pansies *only;* and twenty-five pounds were added to the same society's dahlia exhibition, in September. In both instances, I am convinced, the amounts collected could have been doubled. If the growers of pelargoniums, roses, verbenas, fuchsias, &c. wish to make a demonstration in favour of their particular pets, let them set about it with zeal, and I again repeat, *support will not be denied.*

Pray keep to your text—the old metropolitan style —*enhance* and EXTEND the prizes, and let there be "ample room and verge enough" for TWO-THIRDS to *win*,—*all* will not expect it.

In an early number of the *Midland Florist*, I will, with your permission, offer a few remarks upon the classification and style of showing the carnation and picotee, in your midland counties.

JOHN EDWARDS.

Wace Cottage, Holloway, Middlesex.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

HALF HARDY AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

GLADIOLUS BRENCHLIENSIS.—A splendid bulbous-rooted plant, bearing long spikes of vivid scarlet flowers. All the tribe are interesting and pretty. It was raised from seed, between Gladiolus psittacinus and Gladiolus floribundus, by Mr. Hooker, Brenchley, Kent, and is another evidence of what may be done by cross-breeding. There is an article on the pot culture of the gladiolus in our last volume.

GERANIUM.—CERISE UNIQUE.—This variety was exhibited on the 14th of last November, at a meeting of the London Floricultural Society, and belongs to the Horseshoe, or Scarlet Class. It is spoken very highly of by the editor of the *Gardener's Journal.* The flowers are well formed, and of a bright cherry colour, with white eye. The size is large, and foliage beautiful. It was raised from seed by Mr. Kinghorn, and is certainly a very valuable addition to this class of flowers.

VERBENAS.

These are constantly improving; and few flowers are so valuable for bedding out.

Madonna (Smith).—This is a very pretty pinkish red, with a good and clear centre. Very desirable.

Leopoldina (Nivett).—Flowers most profusely. The trusses of blooms are also very large. The ground colour is bright cherry, with deep scarlet centre.

Valentine de Savense.—Colour brilliant purple, truss large and well formed, and each flower has a dark centre. A very splendid variety.

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Cardinal (Baker's).—We strongly recommend this fine scarlet. It will make a first-rate bedding plant.

Lord of the Isles (Barker).—This flower received a first-class certificate from the London Floricultural Society. We have not seen it ourselves, but backed with this recommendation, we should not hesitate to purchase it as first-rate. The trusses are immense, and though the colour is a dark rose, still it is a splendid thing.

Vulcan Superb (Bell).—Truss large, colour deep rich scarlet. A splendid sort.

CINERARIAS.

These are general favourites, and when well grown, they are really splendid. The following are three new and good sorts:—

Beauty of Uttoxeter (Rogers).—This is a splendidly-formed flower, with very broad petals. Body colour white, with a deep edge of brilliant blue.

Lady Tamworth (Rogers).—The lower part of the petals are pure white, forming a circle round a dark disk; the remainder of the petals are brilliant crimson. The flowers are very compact, and the petals extremely well formed.

Lady Cotton Sheppard (Rogers).—The petals, in point of colour, are nearly equally divided between white and bright crimson. The flowers are large and the habit of the plant good.

HARDY EVERGREENS, SHRUBS, ETC.

All the rhododendrons are interesting. The following new varieties will be a decided acquisition to any collection; and as hardy evergreens, few plants are so worthy of admiration.

Everestianum.—The blossoms are lilac, forming large compact heads, well above the foliage. The upper petals are densely spotted with green,

Cœlestinum—A very beautiful pink variety, with finely-formed flowers, trussing well. Extremely showy.

Catawbiense splendens.—The varieties of Catawbiense are very hardy, of rather dwarf habit, and generally bearing magnificent heads of flowers. This seedling is peculiarly worthy of attention, being a delicate rose colour, edged with bluish lilac. The flowers form a dense truss.

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DAPHNE CNEORUM (ELEGANTISSIMUM).—This is a beautiful variegated variety of *a very beautiful plant.* Whoever is an admirer of the lovely sweet-scented Garland Flower (Daphne cneorum), will, we are sure, greatly prize this novel addition to prostrate hardy flowering (evergreen) shrubs. Each leaf has a broad stripe of bright yellow running up the centre, which distinguishes it from the Daphne cneorum variegata (an old inhabitant of our gardens), which has leaves with a yellow margin and green centre. It will be scarce for some time, and the wholesale price at which we have just purchased a plant is five shillings. It is a small shoot, about the size of a pin, grafted on another daphne; but it is so novel and good, that, though small, we are satisfied.

[Growers of plants mentioned in the *Midland Florist* had better look to our cover.]

FRUITS.

APPLES.

The Baddow Pippin.—This, we are given to understand, is a very excellent fruit, though by no means handsome. Its intrinsic worth will, however, gain it many friends. It has the following excellent qualities:—Bearing *early and well;* keeping *till a late period* in the spring or summer, its season of perfection being from December till June; and rivalling the Ribstone Pippin in flavour.

Braddick's Nonpareil.—This variety bears most abundantly. It is hardly so fine in flavour as the Old Nonpareil, but very superior to it in productiveness, and is certainly a very fine dessert apple.

Screvton Golden Pippin.—This is an excellent substitute for that very scarce variety the Old Golden Pippin, which, with the Old Nonpareil, above alluded to, was formerly considered the *ne plus ultra* of table fruit. Sad complaints, since we can remember, have been made of the Golden Pippin being "worn out." This new variety was exhibited on the 5th of last December, at the Horticultural Society's rooms, Regent-street, and strongly recommended.

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VEGETABLES.

CLARKE'S LINCOLN GREEN-PODDED MARROW PEA.—We always admired the Ringwood Marrow, for its earliness and excellent flavour; but as a market pea, it has one drawback—the *yellowish cast of the pod*, which gives it an old appearance, when in reality it is in perfection. The above is a variety selected from the Ringwood, combining with its excellencies a very beautiful exterior; the pod being a very deep green.

COLE'S SUPERB RED SOLID CELERY.—This new and excellent sort was raised by Mr. Cole, gardener to H. Collyer, Esq. Dartford, Kent. Six heads were exhibited in the Horticultural Society's rooms, Regent-street, on the 5th of December. Six heads weighed each six pounds eight ounces. It was beautifully coloured, and extremely well grown.

CUCUMBER.—LORD KENYON'S FAVOURITE, OR SYON FREE BEARER.—This variety is stated to be much superior to the old Syon House, and is a most profuse cropper. It has other good qualities, being very crisp, as well as excellent in flavour. Mr. Tilly, who is a very successful cultivator, states that he has always found it do best in a heat of from sixty-five to seventy degrees, and grown on a trellis, or on the rafters of a house.

HYBRIDIZING JAPAN LILIES.—Mr. Groom, of Clapham Rise, near London, has been most successful with these flowers, and has raised a great quantity of beautiful seedlings. The soil and situation appears to agree with them, as Mr. G. tells us that they grow "*like willows.*" Some of these are decided improvements on Speciosa, having broader and better formed petals. There is an immense field open for experiment with these splendid flowers, so beautiful and hardy, and so easily cultivated.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

HEATHS,

FOR EMBELLISHING A SMALL GREENHOUSE THE WHOLE YEAR.

MR. W. P. LEACH, in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, names the following heaths, as best adapted for embellishing a small greenhouse during the whole year. We have had many inquiries on this subject, and as we understand Mr. L. is one of the best heath growers in the country, the selection may be relied on.

All the Year.—Mutabilis.
February.—Mac Nabiana.
March.—Trossula, Vernix coccinea.
April.—Nulli, Mac Nabiana rosea.
May.—Intermedia, Cavendishii, Ventricosa alba, Perspicua nana.
June.—Ventricosa hirsuta, Tricolor, Tricolor Wilsonii.
July.—Ventricosa Bothwelliana, Tricolor major, Parmentierie rosea.
August.—Jasminiflora alba, Pulcherrima, Tricolor coronata.
September.—Mammosa rubra, Bowieana, Clewsiana.
October, November, and December.— Lambertii, Lambertii rosea.

PRESERRVING PLANTS IN WINTER.

NOTHING has more discouraged the cultivation of flowers than the supposed difficulty of preserving them in winter; and as this apparently formidable object disappears as the amateur acquires experience, I shall endeavour to detail some of the methods I have employed, and their successful results. Of course my remarks are intended for those who garden on a small scale, and who have not greenhouses for winter protection. At the same time, the principles of treatment about to be described, will apply to the largest collections, and may be of service to all whose object is to secure the beauties of the spring and summer from the desolations of winter.

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Those whose stock o flowers consists of a few greenhouse plants, which they have cultivated in windows, have a very easy task to perform in protecting their favourites, as far as frost is concerned; for a very small amount of care will suffice, when the plants are in a dwelling-house. The temperature of an occupied sitting-room will always be sufficiently high to keep out the frost in the day time, even if the plants are close to the light, and they may be easily removed in the evening to that side of the apartment which is furthest from the window. If the amateur has a large number of plants (young pelargoniums, for instance) arranged on shelves close to the window, to remove these would be troublesome, and they may therefore be allowed to remain in their places, in ordinary frosty weather, the precaution being taken to interpose the blind between them and the window. I once preserved two hundred plants in good health through a severe season, in a room with only one large window, which admitted a good deal of sun. Some of the pots (which were all small sixties) were placed on narrow shelves, ascending to the top of the window, and as near the glass as possible; the others were set on a table. An Arnott stove was lit, when required either by damp or very cold weather; air was given as often as possible; the whole collection was often moved, that light might be equally dispensed; and advantage was taken of mild rains. I succeeded in preserving the whole, without any sickly growth being developed, and was rewarded by having an abundance of strong plants for bedding out in the spring. Most of these were pelargoniums.

Many plants may be more summarily dealt with. Cactuses and scarlet pelargoniums will do well in a dry cellar, provided no water is given them. The latter, when up from the flower garden, I have preserved by shaking off the soil, and hanging them root upwards in a shed or coach-house, from which frost could be excluded. In the spring, they were found in full possession of their vital powers, and on

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being trimmed and potted, made handsome plants. In all cases to which I have alluded, it will be seen that care and forethought are the requisites demanded of the amateur. Attention must not be remitted for a day. I always found that more plants were lost in the winter by damp than by frost. Much water, therefore, must not be given; indeed it should be altogether withheld, so long as the plant does not droop. A plant in a moist growing state, will yield easily to frost; whilst, if it had been kept dry and dormant, its powers of resistance would have been great.

But no plan of preserving plants from frost, independent of a greenhouse, is equal to a well regulated pit or frame, in the open air. I have tried this in various ways, and always found it succeed, if properly attended to. At the present time, all my plants intended to be put into the borders next year, or brought into the house, are in a large two-light frame, the management of which I will endeavour to describe. The frame stands about two feet from the ground, on an exhausted hot-bed, on which cucumbers were grown in the spring, and is sheltered by a south wall. The mould of this bed having been kept from rain in the early autumn, at the close of October, the pots were sunk into it, up to the rims. A double light is then put on, by which wet and frost are more effectually excluded; and at the present time (Dec. 16th), the soil around the pots is quite dry. Around the frame, long stable dung is piled up, about eighteen inches in width, and level with the top. Over the whole, an old carpet is thrown, when necessary, and I have no apprehension that I shall lose anything, if damp do not defeat my efforts. Every day, when it is not frosty, air must be freely admitted, and dead or mildewed leaves must be carefully removed. When frost sets in, two or three extra mats must be laid on, and the whole kept on till a thaw takes place. On no account remove the coverings until at least a day after the frost is gone. This is a very important

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rule, for the admission of light may be fatal, if any of the leaves should be frozen. In this way I have preserved pelargoniums, calceolarias, verbenas, hydrangeas, &c.; and the freshness of the whole collection, after the winter has past away, has always been encouraging. Ordinary greenhouse plants may therefore be preserved by every one, during the hardest winters.

Gardener's Chronicle.

THE CULTIVATION OF THE LILIUM LANCIFOLIUM.

COMMUNICATED BY MR. GROOM, CLAPHAM RISE,

SEPTEMBER 7, 1847.

A BED, four feet wide, of common garden soil, was prepared, about the end of November, 1845, by being dug, and well broken with a fork, but without any manure, which I do not consider desirable in the cultivation of the lily. After the bed was raked level, the bulbs were planted on the surface, fifteen inches asunder each way, spreading the fibres regularly out. They were then covered three inches and a half deep, from the top of the bulbs, with a light sandy soil, composed of sand and fine mould, in equal proportions. The bed was then raked level, and left without further care; and it was *not* protected from frost or bad weather, in any way. Last autumn, after the stems were quite dead, the top soil was removed down to the bulbs, but without disturbing them, and fresh sandy soil was laid over them, to the same depth as before. In this bed they flowered well last year, but were sadly injured by the hailstorm of the 1st of August; so much so that I feared that I should have but a very indifferent display of them this season; they have, however, recovered their strength, and are now in luxuriant growth.

I have now established the fact of this variety being equally hardy with the other sorts; and from

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the vigorous growth and fine colour of the foliage, it is clear that it succeeds better than when kept in a close greenhouse; fully illustrating the advantages to be derived from a free circulation of air in our glasshouses.

I have grown the other kinds of Japan lilies in the open air, with much success, for some years, and have now many thousand flowers just bursting into beauty.

I cannot help calling attention to this plant, for ornamenting gardens and pleasure grounds, flowering, as it does, without any trouble, in the open borders, at this period of the year, when good flowers are so much needed. It is also a most desirable plant, in pots, for decorating the conservatory, being very fragrant, as well as beautiful.

Horticultural Society's Journal.

CULTIVATION OF THE AURICULA IN THE OPEN GROUND.

BY A. BOUVART.

[Translated from the French, by J. Wood, jun.]

THE MOST PROPER SOIL.—The most suitable compost in which to sow auricula seed is of a sandy nature. In those situations where it is not sufficiently light, it will be advisable to cover the bed one or two inches thick with sharp sand, or with rich vegetable soil. This must be well worked in with a spade; after which it must be raked. and the seed sown without covering; but it will be necessary to beat the bed with the back of a spade. I have remarked that the seeds which fell on the gravel path of my garden, came up much sooner than those which had been sown on the prepared bed, and the young plants grew more quickly. It will be necessary, before using the soil which is required for the bed, to destroy the worms and snails which may be found in it.

SITUATION.—Seedling auriculas must have shade. For a long time they remain small. Three months

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after their first appearance, they have four, six, or eight small leaves; and in this state have a single hairlike root, which scarcely takes hold of the soil. A few hours' sun will, at this time, do a great deal of harm; and it must be remembered, that though well-established plants can endure a considerable amount of drought, still they like a slight degree of damp. The best aspect for the bed is a northern one, or where the sun only shines early in the morning and in the evening. East and west aspects are equally favourable, in damp summers; but when the season is dry, the seedlings will be lost, if proper precautions are not taken to shade them.

THE ATTENTION WHICH SEEDLINGS REQUIRE.—When the soil is prepared in a proper manner, the seed may be sown, after the hard frosts of winter are past, that is to say, towards the end of February. The bed should be slightly beaten with a flat board, if the season is dry. The seeds may be just covered with vegetable soil, which has been passed through a very fine wire sieve. The vegetable soil which I use, is made from the leaves, weeds, and clippings of the hedges of my garden. If the season is favourable, the seeds will vegetate in twenty or five-and-twenty days after they have been sown. It will be advisable then to dust the plants with finely-sifted soot. The soot promotes their growth, and prevents the snails and worms, which abound in damp weather, from injuring the young plants.

[To be continued.]

I see in the *Midland Florist*, as well as in all the London publications, Lonicera flava, or Frazer's Yellow Honeysuckle, quoted as rather tender. I have grown it for more than twenty years, and find it to be the best grower and most hardy sort I possess.—F.F.

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Part III.

REVIEW.

THE FLORIST. Edited by E. Beck, Esq. Isleworth. *London: Chapman & Hall, 186, Strand.*

THIS is a work of standard merit; whether we take the articles on cultivation, the beautiful coloured embellishments, or the neat and numerous wood cuts, all, all are good. It is indeed a treat to look through its pages; for in these days of acrimony and jealousy, editors and correspondents sometimes give way to feelings which are unworthy of the beautiful cause they profess to be anxious to advance; and too often do we see their pages marred by inuendo and detraction. The *Florist*, however, takes higher ground; and, throughout, it exhibits a kindly spirit, a singleness of purpose, in carrying on its original designs, which cannot be too highly praised, or too frequently adopted by works of a similar character.

As a sure "guide to the amateur," whether a cultivator of geraniums, heaths, fuchsias, or dahlias, &c. it may be safely consulted; whilst the "*floral devotee*" may here "*read and admire, learn and love.*"

Of this we are certain, the *Florist deserves* to be in every reading room and library in the kingdom; and we are sure, good taste will be displayed by those who place so handsome and so useful a book on the table of their parlour or drawing-room.

QUERIES.

Can you inform me how to destroy the enclosed insect, which is very common on the apple and pear trees? I never saw it on the fruit, before this year. In the summer, the leaves are very much blotched by a kind of worm, or maggot, which makes the trees look very bad. If you can give me any in-

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formation respecting the above, through the *Midland Florist*, you will much oblige A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE BEGINNING.

[The specimen sent is the Scale Insect *(Coccidæ hemiptera)*, and though many remedies have been tried which have no effect, if our correspondent will get some water, heated to a hundred and forty degrees (which he will easily ascertain, by putting a small thermometer in it), and, with a sponge, or anything else, apply it to the branches of his young trees, when the leaves are off, it will most certainly destroy the insects. It has been tried with decided success, in the garden of the London Horticultural Society. The other queries will be found answered in another place.]

In your several observations on root-pruning fruit trees, I do not see the peach, nectarine, or apricot mentioned as fit subjects for this operation. Will you kindly say in your next number whether they are so?

Wells, Somerset. W. DORE.

[We have not experimented on these trees; but we make no doubt, when carefully operated on, the effect would be equally beneficial.]

Will you be so kind as to inquire of your correspondents how the Double-flowering Ribes bloomed? As far as I have seen it, I conceive it a rank imposition.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

[We think it has been too much praised; though we understand it flowers better in the south of England, and on the Continent, in France and Belgium, than in the midland counties.]

I am employed by a person to plant some trees in front of his house. I will thank you to name a few, and at what depth they should be planted. The situation is only two miles from the sea, and two miles from the Humber; it is pasture land, of a black moorish nature, and lies very low. An answer in your next number will much oblige. M. H.

[The following trees are adapted for low situations, such as our correspondent requires:—The Common Alder; the Heart-leaved Alder, a beautiful tree, retaining its foliage to a late period in the autumn; the Cut-leaved Alder, with foliage much laciniated, or cut, and very ornamental. To these may be added the different varieties of willows, some of which are highly ornamental. The Populus angulatus, with other varieties, would also do. The Spruce Fir delights in rather a moist situation, and would probably succeed, if not planted too large at first. Never plant any tree deeper than its collar—where it thickens at the surface.]

In your last month's (November) number, is announced your intention of issuing a "stamped edition," in the coming year,

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for the convenience of those who are indifferently fixed, for due delivery of the periodical by means of the post. In consequence of which, I am desirous of being informed, whether the stamp will free its passage to the *British colonies*, without further charge, same as the newspapers of the day. Being much attached to your interesting little work, I shall feel grateful for your remarks in the January number.

ONE WHO IS ABOUT TO EMIGRATE TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

[The stamped edition of the *Midland Florist* can go *free* wherever a newspaper does; and will be sent to any of the colonies, for twelve months, on prepayment of four shillings, to the publisher, R. Sutton, Bridlesmith-gate, Nottingham.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We consider the Lapstone Kidney the best flavoured and most prolific potato. Mine were the least diseased of any variety I grew the last season. M. H.

I. A.—THE BEST METHOD TO DISPOSE OF LIQUID MANURE DURING WINTER.—We should advise the ammonia to be fixed, as directed in vol. 1, p. 135. It may then be poured over soil, or vegetable refuse, and soil again be thrown on the top. We are fully persuaded that every person who is at all alive to the importance of fertilization of the soil, might gain much by paying attention to the subject of liquid manure. Occasional doses to the roots of fruit trees would be serviceable.

If your correspondent, J. W. S., will take his Fuchsia fulgens out of the pot, and get as much of the soil away from the ball as he can, without disturbing the roots, and put it into a fresh pot, replacing the removed soil by a rich sandy compost, composed of well-decayed cow dung, or leaf mould, and brook sand, with plenty of drainage, and place it in a warm well-ventilated window, south, or south-west, I have no doubt it will flower well. I had one given me, last spring, which, it was said would not flower; but by treating it as above, it flowered twice the same season.

Longton Farms. JOSEPH BALL, JUN.

HOW TO MAKE HYDRANGEAS PRODUCE BLUE FLOWERS.—S. H. I.—These plants appear to be rather capricious. Iron filings, mixed with the soil, and strong doses of alum water have both been used with success. A friend of ours is very successful in their production; we will endeavour to ascertain his method.

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S. H. I.—The shoots of your apple trees are evidently suffering from a sort of mildew, arising, most probably from the soil not being well drained, in conjunction with the wet season we have experienced. Will you be kind enough to inform us whether the soil in which the trees grow is retentive? and whether the situation is high or low? We would advise a good pruning, for most likely the trees are thick of branches. Thin out the middle, removing cross boughs, &c.; but we should be glad to hear from you again.

The Stanwick Nectarine is not yet attainable. We can supply the plum mentioned.

I. A.—We think *Maund's Botanic Garden* one of the best of the cheap illustrated works, being devoted principally to hardy and half hardy plants and trees. *Harrison's Floricultural Cabinet* is also an excellent work.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JANUARY.

VERY many of our readers have pits, heated by a flue, or probably they have a small greenhouse; and in these they endeavour to grow plants; some, of course, succeeding, whilst others, try what they may, are unable to do so. Perhaps a few hints, from time to time, in this part of our work, may be of service, and these we will readily give.

Damp, at this season of the year, is the house plant's greatest enemy; and to counteract its effects, atmospheric air must be given whenever possible. Should fire be *absolutely necessary*, do not let the temperature rise above forty-five degrees. Vigilant attention to the plants will prove highly serviceable. Stir the surface soil frequently; water very sparingly; remove every decayed leaf, for it must be borne in mind that such substances vitiate the atmosphere of the house or pit, and increase the evil.

If the amateur grow *grapes*, the best thing he can do now, is to prune his *vines*, by cutting off the lateral shoots, close to the rod or stem (which we will suppose he trains up under each rafter), leaving the stout and prominent buds at the base untouched. It will be necessary to remove all the loose bark, which is very easily done, in order to destroy all receptacles for insects, &c.; and to effectually keep these pests down, lime wash, mixed with brimstone, is a good thing to dress the flues and walls with. The following mixture will be found excellent for dressing the stems with, after they have been stripped of their bark:—Take some clay, and work it till it becomes like

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thin paint, then add one gallon of tobacco water (which may be purchased of any tobacconist, for a shilling), and two ounces of soft soap. After these ingredients are well mixed, they may be applied with a brush, and will be found excellent for the end proposed.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Whilst the weather continues open, alterations, transplanting, &c. may be proceeded with. Let all borders be forked, which is far better than digging. For the shrubbery use a large fork, and for the flower bed a small one. Bulbous and other plants are thus not so liable to injury. It is a good time to renew *box edging*. Speaking of edging. one of the most beautiful plants for this purpose we have yet seen, is the *Stemless Gentian* (Gentiana acaulis), which bears rich purple flowers in summer. Few people are aware how gorgeous they look. When the weather is fit, look over the *climbing plants* that are trained to posts, or cover arbours, such as *clematises*, *honeysuckles*, *jasmines*, &c. Those that are too thick should have the branches removed; cut them out low down, and remove altogether, carefully tying the other branches in, and shortening stragglers to half or two-thirds of their length. Put in all *spring-flowering bulbs* that may have been left out till this time, such as *early tulips*, *crocuses*, and *narcissuses*. *Lilies*, *crown imperials*, and similar *bulbs* may be taken up and replanted, though it would have been better performed earlier. Take care of the scales of any *lilies* that are scarce, or which you may wish to propagate; they will, in a good situation and a rich sandy soil, form small bulbs at the base of each. Divide *pæonies*. The buds will now be prominent, and it may be safely done.

Tulips (show varieties) will be making their appearance above ground. Many instances have, during the past years, come to our kowledge, where these bulbs have been destroyed—rotting off at the surface. We do not imagine that this disease attacks any but those that are overgrown, by the soil being, perhaps for several years past, very rich, which naturally predisposes to disease, whence the consequence. Look out, as they rise, for cankered foliage, and, with a sharp knife, cut to the quick, and expose the wound to the air, at the same time sheltering it from the wet.

Auriculas will require top-dressing during this month. The sooner it is done the better. The compost for this purpose should have been previously prepared. Nothing is better than sheep manure, reduced to a soil with one half decayed leaves. This, with sheep manure water, as the plants grow, will be found rich enough, without stimulating the plants too much. In removing the surface soil, take care that none of the fibres are injured. Let the plant stand well up in the centre of the pot, that all superfluous moisture may drain from the heart.

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Carnations and *pinks* will require but little attention during this month. Give abundance of air, keep them rather dry than moist, and take care that those in the frames are never closed when the plants are wet.

Moss roses, and other varieties, may be pruned. *Standards* of *Hybrid China*, which make strong and luxuriant shoots, should be well thinned in the centre, cutting out low and close, leaving no snags or stumps. The shoots left may then be reduced to two-thirds their length. We have seen many disappointments accrue from *rose trees* being all cut alike. The *Moss*, for instance, requires very different treatment to the *Hybrid China*. The old and favourite variety, called *Common*, though none the worse for that, may be cut back much closer than the other, shortening the current year's shoots to a couple of inches. Abundance of flowers will be here; while, on the contrary, the *Hybrid China*, if cut in a similar manner, would make shoots like a willow, but the possessor would look in vain for flowers. *Hybrid Perpetuals* may be cut in freely; they will bloom at almost any season, under proper treatment; but these matters we have promised to treat of in a separate article.

We must not forget the *Tree Pæony* (Pæony moutan), so ornamental and beautiful in early spring. It will push so early that its magnificent flowers are often cut by frost. A great point in its cultivation is to plant in a shady situation, by which means its excitability is in some measure repressed, and it is more likely to escape. The sorts easily attainable and worthy of cultivation in any flower garden, however small, are P. moutan, P. papavaracea, and P. rosa Gallica.

Whoever has the convenience of a frame, should now think about putting their stock plants of *cupheas*, *salvias*, &c. into a little heat, so as to get cuttings for bedding out.

Hyacinths, in pots, or any *spring bulbs*, should also be got forward.

Care, attention, and cleanliness must be directed to every part of the flower garden, pit, and frame, if the artizan or amateur would ensure success.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GARDEN.

So many of the operations, at this time of the year, depend on the state of the weather, that this must first be considered. When the ground is wet, it will be better to prune rather than dig. Trees on walls should be trained, whenever the weather permits. As a general rule, lay in all the young wood possible, in *plums*, *apricots*, and *peaches*; under bad management, branches are apt to get long and barren, leaving much of the wall without any bearing branches to cover it. All this may, in a great measure, be avoided, by keeping a succession of young wood as low down the branches as possible. The above are usually trained in the fan shape—*pears* horizontally. At Thrumpton Hall,

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Notts. there are trees which have been trained with a single stem, twelve feet high; two branches from the top then run right and left, under the coping of the wall, forming a letter T; after extending five feet each way, the ends were stopped, consequently the buds produced shoots, and these have been brought down again in lines parallel with the stem of the tree. The object of this mode of training is to induce the formation of fruit buds, by making the sap of the tree flow in an unusual direction. It must be observed, that these trees bear abundantly. *Apple trees*, standards as well as dwarfs, should be regulated. Keep the centres as clear as possible, removing all branches which cross each other. Young *sappy shoots*, which often spring abundantly from the main branches, should be sawn off close. Destroy every appearance of the mealy bug, or American blight, for when once it gets head, it is a difficult matter to eradicate it. There are many prescriptions. We have always found the most effectual to be rubbing them well out with a hard brush. It is also a good plan to carefully apply soot and train oil to the crevices. *Gooseberry* and *currant trees* may also be pruned. Those persons who are forming *pyramidal* trees of the latter, and who pinched the summer shoots to half their length, may now cut them in rather closer. We are quite sure that this system, if generally adopted, will prove highly advantageous. Thin *gooseberries* in the centre, and shorten the remaining shoots one-half; then give the ground a good dressing of rotten manure, and dig it well in.

Raspberries.—Cut out the wood which bore last year, reducing the number of canes to three to each plant; remove all small ones, and manure and fork the soil well over. If the plants stand six feet apart, in rows, the tops of the canes may be brought together, and tied with a small osier, at their junction, thus forming *an arch*. The ends may then be shortened. This plan has several advantages. It does away with stakes; it allows the canes made during the summer to get well ripened; and they do not interfere with the fruit, as they spring up from the centre and grow erect.

Strawberries.—These are better for plenty of room. The fruit is finer than when the plants are all matted together. A large plant, allowed twelve inches each way, will be found the most productive; and the space between is easier kept clean, besides doing away with much harbour for vermin, &c.

When the ground is dry, *early peas* may be sown. Early Emperor (Warner's) is one of the best; Ringwood Marrow is also very early and good. To *lettuces* and *cauliflowers* it will be advisable to give all the shelter possible, especially to the latter. Strew soot on each side, to prevent the depredations of snails. Towards the latter end of the month, sow *radishes* on a warm border. *Mazagan beans* may also be put in; they are not, however, profitable.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE VERBENA, WITH DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF TWENTY-FOUR FINE VARIETIES.

BY A GARDENER.

LITTLE has been said of late about this beautiful flower. Much has been done, but there is still a deal more to do. Some fine things have been raised this last year or two. Wymes's Princess Alice; Barker's Saint Margaret, Marchioness of Ailsa, Duchess of Northumberland, and Cardinal; Smith's Queen of the French, and Desirable; Chauviere's Valentine of Saveuse; and many others, are great improvements. Much improvement may be made in white verbenas; most of the sorts turn pink as the flowers grow older.

The beds intended for verbenas next summer, should now have some dung dug in, and the soil laid up rough, for the frost to mellow. Keep the plants dwarf and bushy; pinch all the flowers out as they come up, unless wanted to make the place gay, as they are very showy, even if there be only one or two trusses on a plant. Some of them are very *niffy*, if they have a little too much water, they die off. The mildew is a great enemy, and some varieties are more susceptible of it than others. A little sulphur dusted on the leaves is a good thing, although it may not entirely stop it.

I would recommend the following as twenty-four good show varieties:—

Smith's Queen of the French.—Pale blush, rose centre.
„ *Desirable.*—Dove colour, good shape.
„ *White Perfection.*—A very good white.
„ *Duchess.*—Delicate blush, pink centre.

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Smith's Psyche.—Rosy purple.
Barker's St. Margaret.—Rosy vermillion.
„ *Marchioness of Ailsa.*—Delicate pink.
„ *Duchess of Northumberland.*—Salmon pink.
„ *Lord of the Isles.*—Rose self.
„ *Cardinal.*—Fine scarlet.
„ *Junius.*—Purple lake.
Salter's Heloise.—Purplish lavender.
„ *Duchess d'Aumale.*—Lavender.
Wymes's Princess Alice.—White, with dark crimson eye.
Chauviere's La Coquette.—Good.
„ *Valentine of Saveuse.*—Dark purple.
„ *Lenormand.*—Bright red, good.
Robinson's Defiance.—Scarlet, fine.
Bell's Vulcan Superb.—In the way of Vulcan, but better shape.
Ivery's Emperor of China.—Dark crimson.
Privett's Leopoldiana.—Bright cherry.
„ *Clorinda.*—Fine peach.
Ivery's One-in-the-Ring.—Carmine.
Barker's Empress of Scarlets.—Fine scarlet.

TRAINING AND PRUNING TREES AS ESPALIERS.

BY THE EDITOR.

SOME of our friends say that we have secrets, and if they ask a question, we are chary of affording the desired information. We beg leave (to use a polite phrase) to say, *they err.* They must bear in mind that we are not *Alexadre Dumas*, the French prodigy, who writes, as "*they say*," half-a-dozen different works at once. But some people *are so impatient!* and perhaps they think that the editorship of such a work as ours is a very easy affair. Here they are as much mistaken as in the former case. However, to ease their minds, we will now try what we can do.

We have always had a predilection for those hardy trees which could be trained, and would bear fruit from a wall. We can only attribute this to seeing in a relative's garden, in the south of England, when comparatively a child, espalier trees which bore a most amazing quantity of fruit, and

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were splendid specimens of this sort of training. The garden was a large one, in an exposed situation, near the sea. It might be about half an acre in extent, and was laid out in the way best to ensure the greatest facility in its culture. It was intersected at right angles by two main paths, which, of course, left four large squares; and round these squares were planted espalier apple trees, with a border, three feet wide, next the path. These trees, at that time (thirty years ago), were in their prime; tier above tier, the branches diverged horizontally from the centre stem, rising to the height of seven or eight feet, and forming a complete wall of branches, leaves, and fruit, round each compartment, which made the centre of each square a favoured spot, where all the best vegetables and small fruits were grown in profusion. That the system is both good and profitable we are sure. These trees, before the coming spring caused their foliage to unfold, broke the force of cutting winds, and saved the tender cauliflowers and early-sown peas from their severe effects; and how beneficial would they be in the florist's garden. Dahlias would be comparatively secure in enclosures like these, which would perform all the service of the sheltering beech and hornbeam hedges, with this grand point in their favour, that they would produce something more than leaves.

Well then, to get an espalier like one of these old favourites of our boyish recollections, we will "begin at the beginning." The amateur naturally says, I must have some kind of frame to train it to. Perhaps the most economical would be larch poles, charred or burnt at the lower part, and inserted in the ground two feet, leaving six feet out. These posts may be four inches in diameter, and to them, at regular intervals of about thirteen inches, long deal laths, such as are used in roofing houses, should be nailed. It is to these laths that the young shoots are fastened. It will be advisable, if the amateur wishes

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to have all the credit to himself, to get from the nursery a maiden plant, that is, a one year old plant from the bud or graft—we should prefer the former. This should be carefully taken up, and as carefully planted —two points of great importance, but rarely attended to properly. In planting the young tree, it should not be set deeper in the soil than it was previously growing. If the collar of a plant (the point where it thickens, immediately above the ground) is covered, or buried, on being again planted, it has a most pernicious influence on the future prosperity of the tree. When the soil has been taken out for the space of a yard, to prepare a place for the reception of the young tree, it invariably settles down, and of course the plant goes with it, and thus gets below the level of the surrounding soil. To obviate this, the tree should be planted on a cone, spreading out the roots, and covering them with soil, so that when finished, it will appear as though it were standing on a large mole-hill. The benefit is obvious, for when the ground has settled, the tree will be in its proper position.

It may now be cut down to three buds, and when spring comes, these will put forth right and left, the upper, or terminal bud, forming a leader. The side shoots may be attached to the lower rail, by bast mat, or any other soft material. The young plant may remain thus till the ensuing February, when it must be again headed down, or the leading shoots cut a few inches above the second rail, leaving a terminal bud, as before. This operation causes the side buds to break strong; and the two shoots must be attached in a similar manner to the lower ones, the summer before. Of course the two lower branches will be making progress, and they must be carefully tied, as they lengthen.

This plan must be adopted yearly, when, after six years have expired, the amateur will find his rails covered with a healthy well-formed tree, and doubt-

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less, ere that period, will have reaped fruit from the lower branches. But the question naturally arises, what is he to do with the shoots which the lower branches throw out? for if they are not cut away, all the lower part of the tree will be a complete bush. To obviate this, we would recommend summer pruning, or pinching, or breaking the shoot half off, and allowing it to hang. The object of pinching or cutting, at that time, is to throw the sap into the buds at the base of the shoot, to induce the formation of flower buds; but it sometimes happens that when a young shoot of the current year's growth is pinched off, say at half its length, it will push again, and the remedy is thus as bad as the disease. When the shoot is only broken half through, it in a great measure prevents this occurrence taking place. But the most proper time (of which any one may judge for himself) is when the young green shoots have formed their terminal buds: *they may then be summer pruned with safety.* Shorten them half their length, and when the season for winter pruning comes, they may be cut within an inch of the main stem. Now we would ask our *grumbling friends* whether we have been explicit enough. If not, and they are not sufficiently enlightened, we must try again. But we have not yet done. While we have been writing this article, it has struck us that during the period these trees were covering the espalier, some serviceable space would be lost, unless a plan were suggested to save it.

If a strong string were attached to the top rail, every two feet, giving it a turn round each of the other rails, and fastening it to the bottom one, kidney beans, gourds, vegetable marrows, &c. might be grown, till the space was wanted for the young tree.

In conclusion, one word about the position of espalier rails. We should say, make them range east and west, that both sides of the tree may receive the influence of the sun. If so placed, as the sun makes its daily circle over our heads, it will cause but

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little shadow; while on the other hand, if the rails point north and south, the east side will have the sun till noon, and the west will receive it afterwards, so that one side or the other will be in the shade a part of each day.

BEST PINKS IN LANCASHIRE.

BY MR. T. CHIPPENDALE, TOTTLEWORTH.

I BEG to forward you the names of eighteen of our best pinks; that is, six in each class.

PURPLE-LACED.

Blackeyed Susan (Norris)
Club Jack (Norris)—this year's
Huntsman (Jones)
Mango (Taylor)
Carnation (Simonite)
Greensides (Bradshaw)

RED-LACED.

Rebecca (Brightmore)—this yr's
Thirseys (Williams)
Joseph Sturge (Lee)
Susanna (Etchell)
Dreadnought
Joseph Hume (Cook)

BLACK AND WHITE.

Beauty of Clayton (Whalley)
Beauty of Blackburn (Fairbrother)
Broom Girl (Norris)
Margaret (Bradshaw)
Mary (Kay)
Lady Boldhaughton (Gressan)

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF FINE SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS,

BROKEN BY DR. SANDERS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Enterprise.—Second or third-row bizarre. Partaking somewhat of the character of the Dutch Cat. with a striking and peculiar abrupt flame, and slightly feathered when in its best state. The petals are stout, the form good, and perfectly clean. The breeder, I think, is from the Dutch Cat.

Queen.—Third-row byblœmen. I presume to be the same as Strong's Queen. A noble flower; comes out creamy, but bleaches to a very pure white.

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Ivanhoe.—Second or third-row rose. The petals are of good substance, the white most pure, the marking beautiful; when in its best state, superb, but, somewhat uncertain, it requires a warm and dry season; it will, however, towards the decline of its bloom, partake in some degree of the byblœmen character, in the same manner that Rosa Blanca does. The petals are rather too long; it is, however, a desirable flower.

Spherie.—Second or third-row bizarre. Constant, an excellent flower, in the way of Milton, Devonshire, &c. broke from the Devonshire breeder; perfectly clean, the marking regular, a good show flower.

Vivid.—First or second-row bizarre. Of a deep orange colour, beautifully feathered with dark brown, sometimes slightly ribbed, perfectly clean, and desirable in a collection. The petals are thin in substance.

Countess Liverpool.—Byblœmen, first row. Dark purple flame and feather, on a very pure white, unlike anything else of its kind. Although generally clean, it is now and then slightly otherwise. Desirable in a collection.

Princess Royal.—Third or fourth-row rose. A gem; the markings and colour everything that could be desired, approaching to Camuse de Craix, or a fine Brilliante; it has, however, too small a cup for its place.

Euphrates.—Third-row byblœmen. An excellent show flower.

Topaz.—First row. The deepest coloured bizarre known, with black markings. Constant, perfectly clean, good substance, late, and rather hard to open. Mr. Sanders and Mr. Goldham are the only parties, I believe, possessing the breeder, I think a joint purchase. Mr. Goldham has broken one, and named it *Napoleon.*

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF POLYANTHUSES.

BY MR. S. HAMMOND, ALFRETON-ROAD, DERBY.

Freebloomer (Brown).—Shortish stem, truss large and regular; tube rather angular, and well filled with anthers; eye round, bright lemon; lace same colour, and very good; ground colour brown, not belonging to either class; above the average size, form good. This variety unfortunately belongs to no class according with the present rules of exhibiting, as it cannot be said to belong to either red or dark. Could we not add another class for colour, and increase variety, so much desired by many; and thereby give those intermediate colours a chance for competition. I should like florists' opinions upon this.

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George IV. (Buck).—Scarcely tall enough for its size, truss very large and regular; very round tube, well filled with anthers; round eye, lace regular and good; ground colour red on first opening, apt to change to a dull brown, if not well attended to in blooming; very large, and excellent form. A fine old standard. This variety has been condemned by many as being coarse and uncertain. I have never had such cause for complaint; its only fault with me is being apt to cloud or stain in the eye, in the early-blown pips, before the later ones are fully matured; but with care, this may in a great measure be prevented. I have kept it in blow a fortnight, fit for any exhibition. It has many years been a favourite of mine.

'Squire Ray (Hufton).—Rather tall, but weak; tolerable truss; tube sometimes very coarse and angular, slightly fluted or raised at top; anthers full and good; eye tolerably round, but often very coarse and uneven; lace good colour and regular; ground colour very dark and rich; above the average size, form very variable. When I first saw this variety, I thought it a most beautiful flower, and still value it from that recollection; but I have never been able to bloom it very good, as it has generally been coarse, very uneven in the eye, and cracked down to the tube. It is a most beautiful colour in both respects.

Lancer (Bullock).—Short stem, truss good size and regular; very round tube, well filled with anthers; eye very round and bright, lace same colour and regular, ground colour bright red and very permanent, above the average size, and excellent form. This variety is quite an acquisition to the red class, being well proportioned and brilliant in colour, and much more permanent than George IV. The only fault is being very short in the stem, scarcely clearing the foliage, which certainly detracts much from this beautiful flower.

Lord Lincoln (Hufton).—Stem rather weak, but erect; truss large, very regular, and compact; tube remarkably round and well filled with anthers, eye perfectly round and bright, lace same colour and very regular; ground colour very dark brown, slightly crimson-shaded, extremely rich; full average size, and form a model of perfection. This, in my opinion, is unquestionably the best we have; at least, as far as I have seen. Unfortunately, like many other good flowers, it is extremely delicate, which accounts for its scarcity. There are several varieties sold for it, which bear no comparison. The peculiarity noticed by you and others, of the curling of the heart leaves, is only to be seen when the plant is in ill health, and is not confined to this variety, as many others have this appearance; particularly 'Squire Ray. I have seen those two so much alike, in autumn, as not to be distinguishable.

Earl Grey (Hufton).—Tall, truss large and regular; tube round and well filled with anthers; eye round, sometimes

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shaded or stained; lace good colour and regular; ground colour variable, sometimes bright marone, at others very dark; form variable. I am well pleased with this variety, when it blooms dark in ground colour, as it is then much more perfect in form, and will always be admired in that state. I have always observed it to be very deficient in ground colour, next the eye, when out of condition.

Princess Royal (Collier).—Stout stem, large truss, tube too large, anthers rather deficient; eye round, colour good; lace regular, but rather pale; ground colour dark and good, form good, and size large, but cupped. This variety has been much prized by some. It is not a very great favourite of mine, as it is so difficult to bloom flat, which renders it much smaller in appearance. I have grown it as large as George the Fourth. It generally comes with six petals.

Alexander (Lee, or Pearson).—Strong stem, large truss, tube angular, anthers sometimes too short, eye angular and bright yellow, lace same and rather too broad, ground colour very dark and extremely rich, above the average size, form not good. This variety is very uncertain; but when in character, it is a noble flower. I have not seen one equal in colour. I have raised hundreds of seedlings from it, but have never obtained one near so good as the parent.

Traveller (Hufton).—Stem strong, truss large and regular, tube angular, anthers good, eye angular and bright yellow, lace same colour and regular, ground colour dark brown and very bright, average size, form not good. This is an old variety, not much thought of; but I still grow it, from the supposition of its being the parent of Lord Lincoln, as my late lamented friend, John Hufton, informed me.

ON THE PROPER MODE OF EXHIBITING CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

I BEG to offer a few observations to the committee of the Midland Horticultural Society, for their guidance in arranging the schedule of the forthcoming carnation and picotee show. Should any suggestion be worthy of their consideration and adoption, I shall be amply repaid.

By all means form separate classes for amateurs and dealers; the one cannot justly compete with the other; neither should they come in juxtaposition, for reasons foreign to my present object. Again, separate

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carnations from picotees: the gaudiness of the former can but ill blend with the chasteness of the latter. Require that the blooms be dissimilar and very distinct varieties, but by no means insist that collections consist of equal numbers of bizarres and flakes: the same with the different classes of picotees; for exhibiters *will* introduce variety without stipulation from societies, and censors *will give preference* to collections where variety is prominent.

Let there be a multiplicity of prizes, and graduate but ten per cent. that high, low, rich, and poor may participate of them;—a prize has a wonderful effect. I here briefly relate an instance. My very first attempt at flower showing was at the Metropolitan Daliah Exhibition, when held at the Baker-street Bazaar. My success was a nineteenth prize; its value ten shillings; its cost—but, no! There were, I believe, twenty-nine collections in the one class, and nineteen prizes given: therefore I was last—beaten by eighteen, yet beating ten. Had there been but few prizes, many might have refrained from a second trial; such might have been my case. But to proceed: individually, I have little choice as to the style of showing. Many are the arguments in favour of showing off cards, on a raised pipe or tube; but I really consider it causes an extra amount of labour and anxiety, without any equivalent. The exhibiter who can grow blooms to win *on* cards, has nothing to fear, if compelled to show without cards, or *vice versa*. Perhaps as a test for seedlings, off cards might be tolerated. I say tolerated, because a judge can as readily tell the substance of a petal by looking at it *on* a card, as he does the shape of the petal, or the general character of the flower. Then why add to the labour and anxiety attendant upon floriculture? detracting from, rather than adding to the numbers of her votaries. Further, the visiters, however ardent admirers they may be, have no chance of inspecting even seedlings, without cards; as exhibiters lose no time in making this important addition to their pro-

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ductions, *after* censors have made their award, and mostly *before* the doors are opened to the public. Therefore, on cards, say I.

Stands must be uniform,—of a given dimension, elevation, and colour,—and the blooms of a given distance from each other: thus uniformity must be secured, and regularity preserved. I say, adopt the horticultural measurement, which has been well tested, and most growers already possess boxes for twenty-four blooms.

The hour must be strictly kept, when censors proceed to their duty. All collections not then ready to be disqualified. Above all, choose censors from men of weight and character; and being central, select one from the northern, one from the southern, and the third from the midland counties.

Seedlings are generally prohibited from being exhibited in collections, applying to both amateur and dealer. This has its recommendation, but also its attendant evil. A gem is a sure mark for a stand, and its owner at once known; and, it is said, *has led* to favouritism (but not with "a good and upright judge"). Its evil is, that perseverance is thus not rewarded. Our aim is improvement, and why should an individual be restrained from showing twelve varieties, and all his own seedlings? Merit should be due to the party who could accomplish such an end. If attained, let him say, "go thou and do likewise."

JOHN EDWARDS.

Wace Cottage, Holloway, Middlesex.

To prevent Worm Casts on Lawns.—Mr. Flemming gardener at Trentham Hall, one of the seats of the Duke of Sutherland, lays down the turf on a layer of sand, which, if thick enough, effectually prevents these unsightly annoyances.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

MANNINGTON'S PEARMAIN.—A new dessert apple, of first-rate excellence. We applied to Mr. Cameron, nurseryman, of Uckfield, Sussex, who has plants to dispose of, for its history, and received the following notice, by Mr. Mannington:—

"The origin of the apple which was named Mannington's Pearmain, by Dr. Lindley, Mr. Thompson, &c. at the Horticultural Society of London, is this:—It was found in a hedge-row, a small scrubby tree, on a spot where a cider mill and press were formerly worked, and is supposed to have been produced by a pip or kernel, from the pulp thrown away after pressing. All who have had a chance of tasting this apple, say it is the best they ever met with. When grown in a good season, it is a most beautiful apple. It also keeps remarkably well. I generally have a dish on the table at our fair, on the 14th of May. It is a general good bearer, but not of strong growth with me, though it is better with Mr. Cameron.

"J. MANNINGTON.

"P.S.—Mr. Cameron would not have advertised this apple, but at the request of his friends. Mr. Thompson wrote me to say that it was a most excellent apple, and ought to be extensively cultivated."

To the above we may add, that Mr. Cameron states it has a rich sugary aromatic flavour, superior in every respect to the Ribstone Pippin. With a character like this, and coming from such good authority, who would not possess it?

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GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

THE following have received first-class certificates from the London Floricultural Society:—

GERANIUMS.

Foster's Gipsy's Bride, Constance, Fireball, and *Undine.*

Gaines's Meleager.—A beautiful scarlet crimson flower, with blotched upper petals.

Gaines's Virgil.—A fancy variety. Light rosy purple, edged with white.

Kinghorn's Cerise Unique, which we have before noticed.

CINERARIAS.

Kendall's Queen of the Isles.—This variety is highly spoken of. Cherry colour, with distinct circle of pure white round the disk; the edge of the petals a darker colour, purple crimson, tinted with ultra marine.

Atlee's Satellite.—Fine purple crimson, dark disk, trusses well.

FUCHSIA.

Smith's Lord Nelson.—Tube light rosy crimson, tipped with green; crimson corolla.

HALF HARDY AND BEDDING PLANTS,

VERBENAS.

These also have received first-class certificates:

Smith's Advancer.

Beauty of Hornsea.—Deep pink, crimson centre.

Napier.—Crimson, shaded light rose.

Barker's Junius.—Purple lake.

Miss Thurold.—Pale lilac.

Cardinal.—Scarlet.

Lord of the Isles.—Pink.

Bride.—White.

Duchess of Northumberland.—Peach blossom.

George Smith's Ariel.—Blush, shaded with pink.

Queen of the French.—Pale blush, cherry centre.

Psyche.—Pink, yellow eye.

PETUNIA.

Back's Minerva.—Pale rosy lilac, much pencilled.

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DAHLIAS.

Stien's Nymph.
Hunt's General Cavaignac.—A fancy flower. Crimson, tipped with white.
Bushell's Duchess.—White.
Bragg's Othello.—Dark.
General Vyse.—Dark crimson purple.
Horatio.—Salmon buff.
Keynes's Rainbow and *Sunbeam.*—Both fancy varieties. The former red, and the latter dark red; each tipped with white.
Long's Earl of Clarendon.—Yellow.
George Smith's La Reine.—Red, slightly tipped with white.
Dodd's Mrs. Blackmore.—Marone, tipped with white.
Cooke's Flora.—Red.

HARDY PERENNIAL PLANTS.

PANSIES.

Hero.
Bragg and Bright's Disraeli.—Dark self.
Colossus.—Puce petals, primrose centre.

MIMULUS.

Smith's Harlequin.—Lemon ground, with large crimson spots.

All the above having passed the ordeal of some of the best metropolitan judges, and being pronounced by them to be worthy of first-class certificates, our readers may rest assured that they are *all* worth procuring. Of course situation and treatment will often alter flowers so much that they can scarcely be recognized; and parties are apt to blame judges, rather than their own bad management; but when in character, we imagine they will prove to be all that is said of them.

TREES AND SHRUBS.

Pinus Dumosa.—From Nepal. Attaining in its native country the height of seventy feet. It is of graceful habit, like the Hemlock Spruce fir, which ought to be more extensively cultivated than it is.

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RHODODENDRON AUGUSTUM.—A variety of the Rhododendron arborea, and sufficiently hardy to stand our winters. This has not flowers so highly coloured as the parent, but they are very beautiful, being rose-coloured, with black spots.

ACER COLCHICUM RUBRUM.—A very singular variety of the maple. It is not of very large growth, but is remarkable for having bright red leaves.

VEGETABLES.

THE following have been grown in the garden of the Horticultural Society of London, during the summer of 1848, and are reported of as follows, in the journal of the society:—

THE LARGE ROUEN LEEK. *(Poireau très gros de Rouen.)*—This was grown side by side with the London Flag and the Netherlands Leek; and under the same circumstances (cultivation), it proved larger and of darker green than either. We would recommend this, especially to our friends who show these things. We have seen the Flag grown very fine at Nottingham, and shall esteem any sort highly that will beat it.

DWARF CRIMSON-SEEDED BEAN. *(Fêve très naine rouge.)*—This proves to be a very dwarf and prolific variety of broad bean. It does not exceed a foot in height. The pods are about three inches long, roundish, and generally well filled; the seeds are crimson, and nearly the size of the Long-pod bean. It is so very dwarf that it could be grown in rows from twelve to fifteen inches apart.

HARRICOT D'ESPAGNE HYBRIDE.—This is said to be a hybrid (cross-bred) variety of Scarlet Runner, from Paris. The blossoms are very beautiful, bright scarlet and pure white. The pods did not remain quite so

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long fit for use as the Scarlet Runner. We notice this more particularly, because in this part of the country a Runner, with scarlet and white blossoms, has been cultivated many years, under the name of "Painted Lady," and is not generally considered so good as the Scarlet Runner, though it is very pretty when in flower.

BARROT'S NEW CRIMSON BEET.—This proves to be an excellent sort. It is larger than the Castlenaudry, and not so apt to fork as that variety. The flesh is very dark crimson. The best variety known.

LARGEST ASIATIC CAULIFLOWER.—The seeds of this variety were received from Haarlem. Under the same management, it grows taller and produces *larger heads* than the common kind.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE RANUNCULUS BED.

HAVING previously treated on the cultivation of the ranunculus, I now propose to communicate some new and important facts, the result of experiment, on the formation of the bed. If this be properly done, success is certain—provided the plants be let alone, and not destroyed or injured by watering, which, nine times out of ten, is the root of all mischief. The beds should have been made in September or October, being composed of about two parts rich pasture soil and one part old pulverisable cow manure. The top four inches, however, should consist simply of soil to which a little sand has been added, that it may be preserved free, and hence little liable to cracking, the greatest disaster to the ranunculus bed; the uppermost two inches, in which the roots are set, should contain still more sand, say one-third, or a fourth, with this view, as well as conducing greatly

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to the expansion and size of the tubers themselves. When the bed becomes cracked, the moisture, even in the lowest parts of it, quickly evaporates, and the long delicate roots are torn asunder and destroyed; hence, in very dry seasons, the whole surface of the bed should be carefully covered with nearly half an inch of sand, which is quite effectual in preventing the evil, and is more cleanly, more easily applied, and more beneficial than bark or moss.

Notwithstanding that all practical writers on the ranunculus have again and again inculcated the necessity of making the beds early, it will be found that five florists out of six neglect the precaution; and then the universal complaint is raised, that the flower is uncertain, capricious, and of impossible culture! I never yet knew an individual who did not admire the ranunculus; nay, who did not admit, on beholding a well-bloomed collection—literally presenting all the varied tints and colours known even to the pencil of the painter—that it was the first of florists' flowers; yet nine out of ten will conclude, with all the air of injured innocence and misfortune, "as for their parts, they could never grow them." It is simply because they never fairly tried. To such—however undeserving—I will now point out a "royal road," by which success is certain; at least it has proved so with me, for two years, though I would still urge the excellency of the plan above pointed out. Six weeks before planting time (*i.e.* St. Valentine's day), let the soil of the bed be dug out two feet in depth, put in four inches of good pasture soil, and then prepare the following solution: Fill with soft water a large tub (or garden cart, moving on wheels, which all should possess), put into it two or three shovelsful of fresh, quite fresh, cow manure, and stir it well up with a garden rake, till it acquire the consistency of thin pea-soup; pour this out with a watering pan (the rose being taken off) upon the four inches of soil, till it is completely saturated. When the liquid is absorbed, which will

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be in a few minutes, carefully remove from the surface of the soil any small lumps of manure, straw, &c. which may be left thereon. Then put on other four inches of soil; saturate this as before, and pick off pieces of litter or manure; and so proceed with the rest of the bed, putting on four inches of soil, and saturating it with the liquid. Lastly, put on four inches of soil, mixed with sand, as explained at the beginning of this article, which must not receive any of the liquid. I have tried this plan two years. The first year was with roots of shy sorts, which had become so small that I judged them incapable of blooming in the main bed. To my surprise, they presented the most vigorous bloom in my collection. Last year, I tried it more generally; and though it was the most unpropitious season in the memory of man for ranunculuses, the roots so treated gave me a plentiful bloom, while the rest of my bed was certainly below par. Let not your readers shake their heads at this plan; a very wise head, viz. Mr. Lightbody's, was shaken at it, when I first communicated to him my intention of trying it. I shall this year adopt it with one-half my valuable seedlings, that come what weather it may, I may be sure of a vigorous bloom. I am fully aware of the danger of overstimulating the ranunculus, by which a strong bloom may often be got for one or two years, but which induces a dwindling and falling off of the roots for the future; but if the roots, for three years, bloom well and take up well, I shall not hesitate to recommend this as the best of all plans yet devised. All the nutritious and stimulating ingredients contained in the fresh manure being so diluted and intimately and equally dispersed through the soil, offer appropriate, easily digestible, and absorbable ingredients of nourishment; and of course, this is altogether different to the mixing or digging fresh manure *en masse* in the soil. The roots of the ranunculus will not penetrate a piece or mass of fresh manure, but perish, if kept in contact with it; and hence the

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necessity of using very old manure, when the bed is made in the ordinary way. Mr. Lightbody's plan, and he is a great authority, is to put a stratum of three or four inches of old manure eight inches below the surface, the soil above and below being only very moderately enriched. He also recommends that the roots should be immediately planted in soil made light and free with sand—they take up so much larger. Indeed, the roots of the ranunculus penetrating so deep as fifteen or twenty inches, it is to the middle and lower depths that we must most carefully attend; here the soil must be retentive and without sand.

Though I now grow my own seedlings, I would give the information to your readers, that the new seedlings raised by Mr. Lightbody, are of first-rate excellence—indeed quite unequalled; but in yellow grounds, I must always except Mr. Tyso's Delectus, Dr. Horner, and Flaminius. Tyso's Edgar, spoken of in London as a "model flower," is bad—at least in these parts; it is comparatively flat in the crown, and opens hardly in the eye.

I should state, that the soil, in this neighbourhood, is stiff and clayey; and hence the necessity of using so much sand in the surface of the bed. Where the soil is naturally light, and not disposed to crack, my precautions will be the less called for.

Dr. Horner, in the Gardener's Chronicle.

RETROSPECTIVE CRITICISM.

I WAS highly gratified with the perusal of the graphic letter of Mr. Edwards, in your last number, and hope it will have the desired effect of promoting the advancement of floriculture generally, but more particularly the objects for which it was written, viz. the carnation and picotee; and I look forward with very

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great interest to his promised paper on showing those delightful flowers in the midland counties; as I think there is great reason to wish an improvement in this respect, and that there may be but one universal system of showing and one standard of flowers throughout the kingdom.

The thanks of all florists, whether amateur or practical, are due to Mr. Edwards, and also to Dr. Horner, for their zeal and earnest endeavours to improve the various productions styled florists' flowers and I hope an abundant reward awaits them, to crown their labours.

I must confess that on reading the letter from Newcastle, on the merits of the pink, I felt quite staggered at the assumption of a standard for a pink without a white edge; but the letter of Dr. Horner, in the last number, has again steadied my pivot, and I think puts R. M. quite in "a fix."

Your remarks about the "ghosts of plants" you received from some of your advertising friends, were verified by some I received in exchange from your Yorkshire neighbours. It is really too bad that florists cannot be more straightforward. I believe it to be the bane of floriculture; so many are sickened by the deceptions practised by some few black legs.

A YOUNG'N AMONGST PINKS.

REMARKS ON "SLATER'S GLADIATOR."

As an interested reader of the *Midland Florist*, I have noticed in the closing number for last year, Mr. Slater's list of the "best carnations and picotees for a young beginner;" and his remarks on several of the new varieties recently introduced to the floral public. Commencing with a critique on Edmonds's Jenny Lind (Red Pic.), he concludes with a notice of his own flower, Gladiator (C.B.)—remarking, "Gladiator has this year given *general satisfaction*; it took the first prize in its class, at Leicester, and won also at the Oldham and Bury exhibitions."

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I propose, with the editor's permission, to occupy a few moments of his readers' attention, in discussing the reality, or otherwise, of this "*general satisfaction.*" First, with reference to the award of the first prize. Our immortal Shakspere tells us, "some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them,"—and in this latter category was Slater's Gladiator, at Leicester, where I saw it "alone in its glory," there being no other crimson bizarre exhibited in the class. I pass on to the Bury show, where, from the published report, I find it was beaten by those old varieties, Paul Pry, Lord Milton, and Cartwright's Rainbow. Having no means of ascertaining the results of the Oldham exhibition, I cannot state its position in its class there; but as Mr. Slater has not informed us on this point, it may be presumed that it was not very flattering. Thus much for the negative evidence affecting the assertion that "Gladiator has this year given general satisfaction;" and now let us examine such evidence as indicates a contrary feeling; evidence, let it be borne in mind, of which Mr. Slater was (with one exception) fully cognizant, when he penned the above assertion.

Turning to the *Gardener's Journal*, of the 29th of July, we find the following remark:—"We reported favourably on the merits of Gladiator, last year, when it was quite a stranger to us, and we regret the price demanded of us for the same, rendered us more than usually anxious to greet its opening beauties; but, alas! its beauties are less visible than its defects." Again, on the 16th of December, the editor of the same paper remarks, "Slater's Gladiator (C.B.) ought to be a good flower, if commensurate with the price demanded for it; but we have never had the good fortune to meet with it in that state of superlative excellence in which we first saw it, previous to purchasing."

Further, referring to the *Florist* (the editor of which, I believe, will not be thought an incompetent authority, or one likely to prejudice himself by a

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hasty decision), in the number for September, we find the following:—"Slater's Gladiator (C.B.), full, but very inferior in its white and marking." Can Mr. Slater construe these into expressions of "*general satisfaction?*" or does he think it indicative of such, that his flower should be absent from the winning stands of the metropolitan exhibitions, and that we have no report of its victories at Derby, Nottingham, Leeds, Sheffield, York, Wakefield, and elsewhere, at the provincial meetings?

No one of the many readers of the *Midland Florist*, observed with more cordial pleasure, the very excellent declaration on the cover of the last number, than myself; no one, therefore, should be more careful of avoiding an imputation or an insinuation, and no one would more regret such a possible construction of these remarks. The circumstances of the case, the high price charged for the variety, and the announcement issued to the public, that it was the "best crimson bizarre yet out," so forcibly remind me, however, of some expressions of Mr. Slater's, made some time since, with reference to Twitchett's Don John (S.B.), that I take the liberty of appending them.

They will be found in the eleventh volume of the *Floricultural Cabinet*, and, passing over some passages which are irrelevant to the present discussion, run thus:—"The day of deception is over—the northern florists are awake—we want a pennyworth for our penny, and not things deficient in every good point." And elsewhere he has remarked, "if a flower is only occasionally to be caught fine, it does not deserve a place in any collection."

With such evidence before us, can we entertain a doubt of the characteristics of the flower? or can Mr. Slater expect from a discriminating public an affirmative to the question, Had purchasers of Gladiator value received for their guinea? or, in Mr. Slater's own phraseology, "did they get a pennyworth for their penny?"

Leicester, January, 1849. H.

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Another correspondent writes, in reference to Mr. Slater's observations on Edmonds's Jenny Lind (R.P.), and in order that your readers may observe the sense of his remarks, I beg to append the following table, showing the number of times it has appeared in the winning stands, in this, the first year of its being out, and from a stock which, if my information be correct, was unusually limited, viz.:—

Horticultural Society.—First and second amateur's and second nurseryman's; or three out of six.

Royal South London.—First, second, and third amateur's (the names in the fourth not being reported), and in each of th nurserymen's; that is in every stand reported.

Slough.—In first and third amateur's and first and third nurseryman's; or four out of six.

It was also exhibited in the second stand of eighteen, at *Norwich;* and in the first collection at *Derby.* And at the latter place, though the produce of a plant severely debilitated by drip, *it was.* in an array of upwards of seven hundred blooms, THE bloom of the exhibition; other blooms, nevertheless, possessing some merit, or they would not have obtained from yourself this expression,—"I have been at many exhibitions of carnations and picotees, in my life, but never before did I witness one so good."

As to Mr. Slater's observation, that "Gladiator (C.B.) has this year given general satisfaction," I cannot but think him a bold man, to give utterance to such a statement, in the face of so high an authority as the editor of the *Florist*, who, in the number for September, remarks, "Slater's Gladiator (C.B.), a large and full flower, *but very inferior in its white and marking.*"

[We must, after the notice taken of Gladiator, by the two previous writers, make an observation or two. We have seen this flower in very good style. The white certainly is its worst defect; but this is always more or less the case in flowers of so high a colour as Gladiator. Mr. Slater sent us notice of its taking a first prize at the Ashton show, where it was allowed to be the best flower in the room; and this we should have previously noticed, only that the adverse opinion of a metropolitan contemporary was stated to have

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been tied round the bottle, accompanied by remarks that we thought hardly suitable for our pages; calculated as they were to give rise to angry feelings. As the case now stands, it appears that this flower has been seen "*very good and very bad.*"—Ed. *M.F.*]

THE TULIP AND THE PINK.

I have been very pleased in reading the *Midland Florist*, from its commencement; and more especially when I found in it articles treating of the properties of florists' flowers; but with respect to those who advocate the shoulder in the tulip, and those who condemn the white margin in the pink, I must beg to differ, as they are, in my humble opinion, decidedly wrong. First, the tulip ought to be in form something similar to a full rainbow reversed—a graceful curve, without a shoulder. I think the shoulder would make the best flower we have second-rate as to form. Secondly, the pink must have a white margin to make it a laced flower: it cannot be lacing, without it. I consider the margin to be one of the most prominent properties of the pink. An edged pink would be quite out of character; equally as much so as would be a laced picotee. For instance, we have three florists' flowers in the Dianthus tribe, the carnation, the picotee, and the pink; and I have always understood that the first should be striped, the second edged, and the third laced, when correctly marked. Some say that edging and lacing are synonymous, but my definition of the terms are different; for example, edging signifies marked on the edge, while lacing means that the marking should be near to, but not upon the edge, leaving just enough white to make a margin. One thing, however, is certain, whether the terms are synonymous or not, which is, that all marked pinks, ragged or smooth, have a tendency, more or less, to a white edge.

R. S.

Oxon.

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REVIEWS & SPIRIT OF THE PERIODICALS.

The Journal of the Horticultural Society of London. Part 1, Vol. IV.

This contains a variety of interesting papers, amongst which are articles on Coffee Bug, and Coffee Mildew, Treatment of Epiphytal Orchids, Experiments on the Growth of Plants in Pure Earths, &c., Cultivation of Celery, and Transplanting Evergreens, &c. by Mr. R. Glendinning, from which we extract the following interesting remarks on this important topic: "Preparation of the subject intended for removal is the first step towards a successful result. Large hollies, yews, cedars, and similar ornamental evergreens intended for immediate effect, should have their roots pruned, any time before they begin to grow. In some instances it will be better to dig a trench within a reasonable distance of the bole of the tree, so as to retain a ball, no larger than can be transplanted. This trench should be cut sufficiently deep all round the tree, and as much under it as may appear necessary to get at the principal roots, which should be cut through, and the soil again filled in. The wounds will be completely healed by the autumn, and numerous rootlets sent out into the loose soil."

The Florist. Conducted by E. Beck.

The embellishment is a group of three verbenas—*Eclipse* (Gates), a beautiful striped variety; *Princess Alice* (Wyness), white, with a rosy spot on each division of the corolla; and *Royal Purple*, somewhat similar to Walters's Emma, but darker and brighter. Amongst many good articles, there is one by Mr. Wyness, On the Culture of the Verbena, from which we shall make an extract for our next number; On Window Greenhouses; On Ferns; and the Destruc-

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tiveness of Hares and Rabits. From the latter, it appears that though pieces of cloth, dipped in brimstone and stuck on small sticks, will, in ordinary winters, prevent the attacks of these pests of the nurseryman and florist, on their pinks, brooms, apple trees, &c., yet, in very severe weather, they afforded no protection; for, in spite of brimstone, when nothing else was to be got, they destroyed more than five hundred young apple trees in one night.

[The above are the only periodicals we have received. Publishers and editors, if they wish their works to be noticed in our pages, may forward them to the care of Messrs. Simpkin and Marshall, London.]

The Tulip Book.

This indispensable work, for all who grow these splendid flowers, has been kindly forwarded to us by J. Edwards, Esq. Wace Cottage, Holloway, and, we see, may be had of Bryan, Corcoran, & Co. stationers, 36, Mark-lane, London.

It is, in fact, *the florist's ledger;* as, under the several letters of the alphabet, he enters his various flowers, to each name being attached numbers, so that at any moment he can turn to the row, and number in the row, of every bulb composing his bed. For instance, we will take the following from our book, under the letter Q:—

COLOUR.	ROW.		
Byb.	4	Queen of Violets 7-14	indicating 7th bulb in the 14th row
Byb.	4	Queen Philippa 4-24	
Byb.	3	Queen Charlotte 3-29	
Rose.	3	Queen of Scarlets 3-42	3rd in 42nd row
Byb.	2	Queen Charlotte (Davy) 2-62	
Biz.	1	Queen (Strong) 1-63	1st in 63rd row
Biz.	2	Queen Zenobia (Mitchell) 2-66	
Byb.	4	Queen (Rutley) 4-68	
Byb.	3	Queen of the North 3-6	3rd in 6th row
Rose.	3	Queen Elenor 3-70, 5-70,	indicating that the 3rd and 5th bulbs, in the 70th row, are alike

We have seen several books of a somewhat similar character, but this is decidedly the best; and we would, from its simplicity and extreme usefulness, strongly recommend it to all our *tulip-growing friends.*

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Part III.

QUERIES.

I write to know if you could inform me of twelve varieties of fuchsias, the largest sorts and freest bloomers; and likewise to request you will treat of the soil to grow them in.

Leek, Staffordshire. A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

[Our correspondent must bear in mind that the largest are not always the best. We shall be glad if some of our fuchsia-growing friends will answer the above queries.]

Will you oblige a subscriber to the *Midland Florist*, by giving, in your next number, a list of dessert pears, and the time they are fit for table use? Also please to tell me the best work on kitchen fruit and forcing flowers.

[*Macintosh's Practical Gardener*, last edition, we can strongly recommend; and the following twelve pears will be found of excellent quality:—

Beurré Diel.—A very hardy variety and abundant bearer. Its season is from November to December.

Beurré Rance.—First-rate and large. March to May.

Colmar d'Arambert.—New, very large and fine. December.

Dunmore.—One of Mr. Knight's. Bears remarkably well, and is a very fine sort. September.

Hacon's Incomparable.—Large, and very excellent. Bears well after it arrives at the age of ten or eleven years, but sooner on the quince stock. November to January.

Louise Bonne, of Jersey.—In season in October. A very handsome and excellent variety.

Marie Louise.—This variety is now becoming well known as one of the best. It bears well on any aspect, east, west, north, or south. It is also a very fine sort for a pyramid, or standard. October and November.

Monarch (Knight).—Excellent. Season, January.

Winter Nelis.—A very good and prolific variety. In season December to January.

Althorpe Cressan.—Hardy, a great bearer, and very good.

Glout Morceau.—Bears well, and a most excellent sort. November to January.

Neill.—This is not of so fine quality as some previously mentioned, but still it is a good sort. An abundant bearer, and, from its beauty, well adapted for market.

Grosse Calebash.—This is a new variety, well adapted for a standard. The fruit is large, and of excellent quality. Its season is towards the latter end of November.]

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LABELS FOR PLANTS.—Will you kindly say what are the best labels for plants, out of doors, or in pots? JAMES REID.

[The most common are slips of deal, rubbed with white paint, and written on with a lead pencil. These will last twelve months. Leaden labels are also used, either with numbers or names stamped on them; but the neatest and most beautiful we have yet seen, are the enamelled garden labels, sold by Mr. Duncan Hairs, seedsman, 109, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross, London. They are extremely handsome, and we are glad of this opportunity of recommending them.]

MARY JANE will be obliged to the editor of the *Midland Florist*, if he will give her the names of six good climbing plants, that will bloom well during the coming summer.

[Lothospermum Cliftonii and erubescens, Rodochiton volubile, Eccremocarpus scaber, Tropæolum Canariensis, and Maurandia Barclayana.]

I intend planting a few standard pear trees in my garden; will you have the goodness to recommend, in the *Midland Florist*, two or three early, good-bearing, and saleable sorts? As it is rather a cold mountainous situation, none but early and hardy kinds will succeed. The Hessel does very well, but no later kinds will ripen their fruit here. You will also oblige me by naming a few showy climbing plants, to train to the rafters of a greenhouse. Would the Glycine sinensis answer that purpose? or is it hardy enough to flower and stand our winters in the open air? In the nurserymen's catalogues, in Northumberland and Durham, it is placed in the list of greenhouse plants, but in the south country lists, it is among the hardy ornamental climbers. I thank you for answering two of my queries of the 16th of October; the remaining two, I hope, will not escape your notice.

Haydonbridge, Northumberland. S. H. I.

[Poire Neill and Dunmore, we think, might suit the situation S. H. I. alludes to. Glycine sinensis makes a splendid plant for a greenhouse, and does equally well for a south wall. Passiflora Kermesina, Clematis azurea grandiflora, Bignonia jasminoides, and Zichya tricolor are good greenhouse climbers.]

I often hear the Pitmanston Greengage Gooseberry extolled very highly. Is it anything particular? Will you, in your next number, say whether it is as good as represented?

A SUBSCRIBER.

CABBAGE—NEW SORTS.—Will you state, in an early number, which are the best and earliest, amongst those that have been brought before the public, during the last few years? It will be esteemed a favour, by A COTTAGER.

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VERBENAS FOR BEDDING-OUT.—Last year, I purchased a quantity of these plants, expecting that they would be prostrate and pretty-growing, but I have been sadly mistaken; the majority were strong-growing and robust sorts. Will you, in your next, give the names of a dozen, that are best adapted for small beds?

Birmingham. R. GRANT.

FENCES.—There are so many opinions about what is the best fence for gardens, that I think you could not be doing a more acceptable service to your numerous readers, than describing in a simple way the different plants used for that purpose, and at the same time giving your own opinion as to their merits.

JAMES MURRAY.

RHUBARB—ITS USES.—This useful plant will soon be coming into season. What new sorts are there worth growing? Will you be so kind as to add information on wine-making, preserving, &c. and I shall be greatly your debtor? WM. DOBBS.

[We will do our best, shortly, to answer all our friends.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Names of thirty-six of the best varieties of dahlias, placed as nearly as possible in their order of merit, in answer to "A Subscriber," Dublin.

1 Standard of Perfection
2 Yellow Standard
3 Beeswing
4 Shylock
5 Nonpareil
6 Princess Radziville
7 Essex Triumph
8 Scarlet Gem
9 Marchioness of Cornwallis
10 Louis Philippe
11 Captain Warner
12 Admiral Stopford
13 Golden Fleece
14 Marquis of Worcester
15 Andromeda
16 Box
17 Miss Vyse
18 Boule de Feu
19 Marquis of Aylesbury
20 Toison d'Or
21 Mrs. Anderson
22 Cassandra
23 Queen of Roses
24 Mrs. Shelley
25 Miss Sarah
26 Captivation
27 Gloria Mundii
28 Athlete
29 Lady St. Maur
30 Berryer
31 Essex Rosy Lilac
32 Sir E. Antrobus
33 Gem
34 Hero
35 Caractacus
36 Doctor Graham

AN AMATEUR DAHLIA GROWER.

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THE CRIMSON GLORY PEA. (*Clianthus punicens*).—A correspondent, who signs himself R. N., asks how this pretty plant is to be propagated. We will tell him how. When his plant has made young shoots, say the middle of May, he must take off the tips or ends, about two inches long; and, placed in light sandy soil, under a bell glass, if put in a frame, and kept moderately moist, they will soon strike root.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR FEBRUARY.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

MUCH depends on the weather and state of the ground, for getting in seeds and plants. It must ever be borne in mind, that all land appropriated for summer crops of vegetables, ought, ere this, to have been well dunged and thrown up in ridges. Where this is the case, advantage can be taken of favourable opportunities, which those who have not attended to these necessary operations, are often unable to profit by.

A good quantity of *broad beans* should be got in now, as *potatoes* will most likely be scarce and dear.

Plant out *cabbages*, and fill up the rows, where the winter has destroyed them.

Early peas may be sown. Take some of the early marrows, in preference to the Warwick. Fairbeard's Surprise, and Ringwood are good sorts. Those that are above ground will probably be attacked by slugs; perhaps the best thing to prevent their ravages is fine coal ashes strewn amongst the plants.

Sow *parsley seed*. Myatt's Garnishing is a beautiful sort.

Early Dutch turnips should be got in on a warm border.

Make fresh plantations of *rhubarb*, on well trenched and manured land. We have now many varieties of this excellent substitute for fruit; amongst the best are Sanguinea, Jamesii, Monarch, White Perfection, Linnæus, and Victoria. We intend to describe the various sorts, in an early number.

Plantations of *horseradish* should also be attended to.

Radishes, *mustard* and *cress*, and *parsnips* should be sown the latter end of the month; and the beds intended for *onions*, *carrots*, &c. should be well worked.

Early potatoes may be planted on warm borders. We would advise our readers to give Rilot's Flourball a trial this season, if they can get it true. We are certain they will thank us for the recommendation. Some accounts of its extraordinary productiveness have come under our notice, during the past season.

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We would advise *potatoes* to be planted on raised beds, with a deep trench on each side, so as to keep them as well drained as possible; and where the land is of a close and heavy character, mix sand, lime rubbish, coal ashes, &c. which will be found highly beneficial.

ORCHARD AND FRUIT GARDEN.

Where *gooseberries* and *currants* have not yet been pruned, it should be immediately attended to. We have seen the former of these fruits trained to a wall with very good success. They might be tried up the buttresses or pillars with advantage; and in this case, we think that the flowers would be much more easily hybridized, than when growing on a bush; and we are quite sure it would repay the trouble. Finish pruning *wall trees* and *espaliers;* and attend to the directions on this subject given in our January number.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Many of the *early spring-flowering plants* will be making their appearance. Amongst the prettiest and hardiest is *Sisyrinchium grandiflora*, almost as early as the *snowdrop*, with flowers of a beautiful ruby colour.

In beds, where a succession of flowers is desirable, it is always a good plan to have a quantity of *bulbs*, to form the first crop, if we may so term it; and when these have displayed their beauties, the foliage should be carefully preserved, though we have seen some *clever* fellows cut this off when quite green. Such plants as *verbenas*, &c. should be prepared and hardened, to place between the bulbs. We notice this, that those who are making fresh beds, or rearranging their old ones ,may leave sufficient space for the introduction of summer plants, at the proper season.

All sorts of *herbaceous perennial plants* may now be divided and planted out; and borders which have been impoverished by a multitude of these plants should have the soil renewed.

Crocuses, narcissuses, anemones, &c. on beds, should have the surface soil carefully stirred; and everything connected with planting, parting, &c. should be speedily accomplished.

Box edging may still be done; and now is a good time to lay down *turf*. The flower borders, or beds, on grass, should have their verges, or margins, carefully cut, and filled up with fine soil. Nothing looks so bad as deep raw edgings of turf. The same rule holds good with gravel walks; they should always be kept well filled, and rather highest in the centre.

Climbing Roses should now be pruned. Where too thick, it is the best plan to cut clean away from the bottom. The short branches, or spray, produce the flowers most profusely, consequently, if the shoots were shortened very much, strong and luxuriant growth, attended by a paucity of blossoms, would be

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the result. *Hybrid Perpetual Roses* may have their heads thinned, and the shoots cut back at least one-half. *Hybrid China Roses*, on the contrary, if cut back much, produce many shoots and but few flowers. *Moss Roses* and *Provence Roses* will bear severe cutting; whilst *Banksian*, *Noisette*, and *Chinese* should be thinned, and the branches nailed to walls or palings, leaving small shoots for blooming. In fact, *Banksias* cannot be left too much to themselves, in this respect, if they are to flower well. *Standard Roses* and *dwarfs*, forming clumps, should have the surface soil round them moved to the depth of several inches, with a fork, and a dressing of liquid manure applied. Old dwarf plants, on their own roots, will be better for being taken up, the roots shortened, the tops reduced, and replanted in rich compost.

Annuals may be transplanted. Near the place where they were grown last year will be found many self sown plants, which have withstood the effects of winter with impunity: these may be removed with a trowel, so that with a small ball of soil to them, they will scarcely experience any check from the operation, and will bloom much earlier than those which are spring-sown, thus prolonging the season.

In the Florist's Garden, the chief attention must be paid to *auriculas*, which will be on the move. The plants may now be top-dressed with rich soil, composed of rotten sheep manure and leaf mould, equal parts. Some florists assert, and with good show of reason too, that it is a bad plan to move the soil at this season, as many fibres, highly necessary to the plant, are thus destroyed; and they recommend liquid manure (See vol. i. p. 41), with which opinion we coincide.

Pansies, either in beds or in pots, should be top-dressed, and the points taken off those which are of a long straggling character.

Ranunculuses may be planted any time during the month of February, choosing a dry day. Also sow the seed, in flat pans or boxes. We usually press the soil firmly, water well over-night, then sprinkle the seed on the surface, pressing it well in with a piece of flat board. We have often covered with clean moss, till the seeds germinate, when it is gradually removed. If the seed is covered with any other substance, it should be sandy peat soil, and then not deeper than the twentieth part of an inch.

Look well after *pinks* and *carnations*. Give air, and harden them as much as possible. Remove from the frame any mil-dewed or blotched plants; subject them to a good dressing, by the removal of the diseased parts; after which, apply a slight dusting of sulphur. Prepare the compost for potting, keeping a sharp look out for wire worms, &c.

Dahlias.—The tubers may now be placed in gentle heat.

Tulip beds ought to be protected from excessive wet and frost.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

YELLOW PICOTEES.

BY MR. WM. WILLMER, FLORIST, HOVE, NEAR BRIGHTON.

In order to fulfil yours and several correspondents' wishes, as to the best picotees of this class that I grow, I have ventured to give a short descriptive list, with the hope that it will prove useful as well as amusing to many of your readers. I am quite sure that a wide field is open for perseverance, and a rich harvest will be reaped by those who turn their attention to originating fresh varieties from seed. The following sorts I have cultivated, and I have endeavoured to describe them as faithfully as possible:—

Costar's Coronation.—Of medium size, ground colour pure pale yellow; the edge is red, heavily laid on, and not so much broken as in some varieties.

Cooke's Prince Albert.—Medium size; the edge, which is somewhat broken, is light purple, on a primrose ground colour.

Willmer's Queen of the Yellows.—This truly magnificent variety is of large size, and opens very regular and smooth. The ground colour pale yellow, heavily laced with red; the petals of good form and substance.

Fellows's Duc d'Alençon.—Of medium size; bright rose margin, on a delicate primrose ground.

Cooke's Childe Harold.—This variety is somewhat similar to the above, but, in my opinion, better. The ground colour is darker; the edge rose, very slightly broken; the petals also are of good substance.

Willmer's Romulus.—The chief fault (though it can hardly be called a fault) of this variety is, that it often carries by far too much colour on the edge, which is bright red, sometimes extending three-fourths of the way down the leaf, leaving but little of the yellow ground. It is of large size, and may be called a coarse-looking flower.

Tandy's Napoleon.—The ground colour and size of the flower is good, and the lacing heavy, somewhat similar to Costar's Coronation.

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Martin's Queen Victoria.—This fine variety is of good size; the ground colour a pure and fine yellow; the edge light red, which slightly bars; the petals are stout, and of good substance.

Willmer's Goldfinder.—Medium size, pale yellow ground, light red edge; an interesting variety.

Willmer's Boxford.—This somewhat novel variety has a pale yellow ground, often distinctly edged with marone, whilst the petals are striped with pink and marone, in a similar manner to the carnation. A very singular and attractive sort.

Everett's Miss Leveson Gower.—The ground colour bright yellow, with a purple edge. The flower is of good size, but the margin is much broken.

Willmer's Miss Jeans.—Medium size; a pretty rosy lacing, on a primrose ground; a very beautiful variety.

A DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOME OF THE NEWEST LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE, AND STAFFORDSHIRE GOOSEBERRIES.

BY MR. T. CHIPPENDALE, TOTTLEWORTH, NEAR ENFIELD, LANCASHIRE.

BELIEVING that many readers of the *Midland Florist* are sincere admirers of this most excellent fruit, and that at the same time, an erroneous opinion is widely spread, that the large sorts, cultivated for showing, are devoid of flavour, I beg to forward you a notice of some of the most recent; and though they are comparatively scarce, still, in a few years, they will be generally cultivated, for their beauty, size, and flavour.

Banger (Smithies).—A long smooth red berry, smallest at the top; the colour is very dark, almost black, when ripe. This was sold out by Mr. John Smithies, in 1846, at his house, the Woodman Inn, Wood-street, Middleton, near Manchester, in twenty-one lots, at ten shillings per lot. This variety, I think, will prove itself a good sort, when intended for competition; the flavour is also good.

Lumper (Fairclough).—This is a round smooth red variety, and though not one of the heaviest, will be found a useful sort; besides, the flavour is very excellent. It was sold out in November, 1844, in twenty-one lots, at ten shillings each, by Mr. Henry Fairclough, of Ormskirk.

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Lincoln (Finney).—A long rough red berry, rather early, which is against it for competition, otherwise it would be a match for the very best sorts grown; nevertheless, it is a great favourite in this part of the country. It burst in July last, with Mr. Martin, of Whalley, twenty-six pennyweights. It is of first-rate flavour, and was sold out by Mr. Joseph Finney, Stanton, Staffordshire, in October, 1846, at ten shillings per lot, there being twenty-one lots.

Captain Cook (Cook).—This was sold out in plants, the latter part of the summer of 1847. It is a rather long smooth yellow berry. It was exhibited at the open show, at Manchester, in 1847, and much admired as a very promising seedling. It weighed twenty-two pennyweights and fourteen grains the first year. This will doubtless be a first-rate sort.

Game Cock (Fairclough).—A round smooth dark yellow berry, and will be an excellent variety for exhibition. It was sold out by Mr. H. Fairclough, of Ormskirk, or rather given in with Lumper, in November, 1844. No garden should be without it, as, independent of its other good qualities, it is of excellent flavour.

Lightning (Fairclough).—Was sold out by the same gentleman who raised Game Cock, in twenty-one lots, ten shillings each, in the year 1846. It is rather long, and somewhat rough. A promising sort.

Eagle's Daughter (Finney).—A long rough white berry, very late. A promising sort, but I do not think it will be so large as some, though no garden should be without it. Good flavour when quite ripe.

Alice Hawthorn (Park).—Rough round white berry, of first-rate flavour. This variety, when a little more plentiful, will be a constant winner. It was sold out in 1845, at Ormskirk, by Mr. John Park, in twenty-one lots, at ten shillings each.

Snowdrop (Bratherton).—One of the most beautiful sorts ever planted. As soon as midsummer arrives, it turns quite white, with the exception of the veins, which are green as the blade of an onion, forming a most singular contrast. It is one of the best white gooseberries we have for competition, and is also of good flavour. It was sold out in 1845, by Mr. Joseph Bratherton, Wistasen, Cheshire, in twenty-one lots, at ten shillings each.

Thunder (Fairclough).—This sort was at first called *Tiptop*, but was afterwards altered, being given in with Lightning, previously described. It is a rough long green berry, of first-rate flavour.

Gretna Green (Horrocks).—A rough round green berry, sold out in 1846. This has not done much in competition since that period, still I think it will yet prove itself a good sort. The stock of this variety, when let out, was very small, in twenty-one lots, ten shillings each. It is of very good flavour.

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Tom Joiner (Goodier).—A first-rate rough round green berry. This was raised by Mr. Jonathan Goodier, Newton Heath, near Manchester, and sold out by him, in twenty-one lots, at ten shillings each, in 1846. It is of excellent flavour; and though sold out so long ago, it may surprise some of your readers who are not in the fancy, when I say that a tolerable good plant will now make from ten to twelve shillings.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF FLORICULTURE.

BY MR. G. GLENNY.

THERE are many florists who fancy they discover omissions in the works of others which have to be made good, while the supposed deficiency is quite as well understood by the original as by the discoverer, and this constant itch for fault finding ends in the discomfiture of the meddlers, whenever any one thinks proper to take the trouble of setting them right. I have observed in the *Midland Florist*, on more than one occasion, a sneer intended for myself. I do not intend honouring the gentleman by any further notice, than offering to your readers at large, an explanation of what I consider "general principles," and, "once and for always," inviting those who think they know better than I do, to upset them. I do not mean to answer any cavilling objectors, time after time, but if I see any valid objection made temperately, by persons likely to have any weight, I will meet it in the spirit of one desiring to improve all the floral tests, and who will not think a bit the worse of his own original works, though they may be improved. The general principles upon which I have founded my Properties of Flowers and Plants were these—

FIRST.—PERFECTION OF FORM.—In settling which, I studied only that which would appear the most handsome and effective, *if it could be obtained;* and I endeavoured to lose sight of all other considerations, because, with the possibility or impossibility of achieving it, I had nothing to do. Thus, although

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no previous writer had even hinted at the tulip being *a portion of a hollow globe*, but had describe cup, cup, cup, as if there had been but one shaped cup in the world, I at once fixed on that (from one-third to one-half a hollow ball) as an undeviating form, that everybody could understand. Thus too, observing the ragged wing-like forms of the pansy, geranium, and verbena, and detecting at once that it was the vacancies between the petals that offended the eye, I adopted at once the true circle for the perfection of form, because there could be no vacancy in that. I even carried this principle to the cineraria, which at that time was a loose widely-separated star-like shape, with narrow petals: and I need not remind some of my acquaintance, that they ridiculed me until they were tired. The form as a whole is, in fact, the fundamental principle of all improvement in flowers.

SECOND.—Although the very name of circle implies A SMOOTH EDGE, yet, so essential is this matter, that I left nothing to be implied; and therefore smooth edges, petals free from notch or serrature of any kind, and also a total absence of indenture where petals lap over each other, was insisted on in all flowers, though it may almost be called an explanatory detail of the circle.

THIRD.—THICKNESS OF PETAL.—Equally important with the other features, not only on account of the colours being more dense or rich in a thick than in a thin petal, but the flower being more lasting, and holding its form better.

FOURTH.—MARKING.—So far as necessary uniformity is concerned, and the avoidance of all undefined blotching. In *auriculas*, it goes to the proportions which the edge, the colour, the paste, and the tube bear to each other. In *polyanthuses*, it goes to the lacing being even and the same colour as the eye, to which it reaches. In the *tulip*, it goes to the feathering being close and continuous round the edge, and extending inwards; but *certainly not to the depth or shallowness of the feather*, for the difference in the

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depth forms the finest feature in varieties. A man who should say that a feather is better narrow than wide, when both are equally without fault or blemish, must forget that collections of flowers *all alike* are not exactly a man's object. But the marking also goes to all six petals being alike. Marking, as regards the *pansy*, goes to the top petals being alike, the two side petals being alike, and the ground colour being alike in all three of the lower petals; above all things, in the field or ground colour being large enough, or the eye small enough, to prevent the rays of it from breaking through into the border colour. In *pinks*, it goes to the lacing, a band of colour within a perfect margin of white, &c.

FIFTH.—PURITY.—In all flowers, the ground colour must be pure, free from spot, stain, or blemish; no matter whether it be a tulip, picotee, carnation, pansy, pink, or any other flower with a ground, it should be purity itself;—no pouncy spots, no stain, no two shades, or appearance of mottling.

Those who go beyond these general principles, and want to get into particular details, are sadly wide of the mark, if they fancy that I have not considered them all. Some pretend that the two side petals of a pansy ought to meet behind, or that the borders of the three under petals should be all of a colour; others say the marking of a bizarre tulip should not be red, or that the feather should not be deep. Why, such people have got to learn everything. Instead of those who have left such points open, having been *deficient*, it is the would-be correctors that are blundering. The great charms of floriculture, *after securing the main point of form*, are VARIETY and CONTRAST. If the form is attained, the different ways of making up that form give us the variety. Thus, a cupped dahlia that had all the other points would be richer than a reflexed one; but if the dahlia is to be two-thirds of a ball, and a cupped one is too low in the centre, the reflexed one will beat it, simply because the form of the whole flower is the grand

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point, in which the reflexed one is perfect, and the cupped one is fatally imperfect. The actual form of the whole being a leading principle, while the laying of the petal to make up that form is only a detail, before we condemn a flower for peculiarities, while it possesses all the fine leading properties, we must bring flowers without these peculiarities, and with equal beauties, to beat it. I agree with one of your contributors, that black and yellow would make a better bizarre tulip than red and yellow; but if I had to set up a pan of twelve tulips, with four bizarres in it, I would contend—*all other properties being equal*—that a feathered and flamed red one, and a feathered and flamed black one, could beat a stand that had all four black. It is the one grand thing to agree upon *principles*, but it would be madness to go into details that would limit varieties unnecessarily. If any florist will take up my "Properties of Flowers and Plants," and temperately question the originality, or object to any of the principles, in the spirit of *fair discussion, for improvement*, I shall not have much trouble to *establish that I am right*, or much hesitation in *acknowledging I am wrong;* but I would pass those gentlemen who fancy they know a good deal, while, in fact, they are merely reading other people's works, and dabbling in what they do not individually understand. I am now alluding to sundry writers who fancy they are burning their own lamps before the floricultural world, when they have merely taken up somebody elses, which most of the observers can identify.

THE CONSERVATORY WALL

BY THE EDITOR.

We do not stay to ask the question, whether the above title is appropriate or not; but we are anxious to give our opinion as to the plants best adapted for training on the boundary wall of the suburban flower garden.

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It often happens, that as far as flowers, &c. go, the parterre in front of the house or cottage is well and beautiful enough; but the effect is spoiled by covering the walls or palings with currant trees, Morello Cherries, &c. which, in this case, we must protest against, as evidencing a sad want of taste. These things, truly, may be placed there because the proprietors are at a loss to know what will beautify their gardens, and for their especial information, we throw the following hints together.

It is frequently the case, that between gardens there are low walls, against which very beautiful shrubs may be trained, and which, though not exactly hardy, can be preserved by a little care and attention. One great drawback to the successful cultivation of these things, is the constant drip which falls from the copings, perishing the roots by an excess of moisture. In order to obviate this, the most simple and economical way is to have some small zinc spouting to carry off the wet.

The border should be excavated to the depth of three feet, and a quantity of rough materials, such as brick ends, &c. put in, to the depth of twelve inches, to act as drainage. It may then be filled up with compost of rather a sandy nature than otherwise—highest next the wall, and gradually sloping to the path; and after having settled down, it will be ready to plant.

We will mention, in the first place, a few hardy things which look best against a wall; and as an old and very handsome plant, there are few that can rival the

Rose Acacia. (Robinia hispida.)—When grown as a bush or standard, in consequence of the size of the leaves and flowers, and the brittleness of the shoots, it is extremely liable to have large branches torn off by the action of the wind: therefore it is best trained, and well will it repay any trouble bestowed upon it. The flowers, shaped like the common laburnum, only much larger, are produced in great quantities, and are a delicate rose colour, hanging in large pendent racemes (bunches) over the surface of the plant. Cheap, but very desirable.

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Magnolia Grandiflora Exoniensis. (The Exeter Variety of the Large-flowered Magnolia.)—A splendid evergreen. The leaves are rather more pointed than the common laurel, and of a rusty colour beneath; the flowers are white, looking something like a moderate sized ivory basin. This grows well away from a wall, in the Isle of Wight and the more southern counties, but in the Midlands, a wall is indispensable, to develope its beauties. Good plants of two to three feet, are worth three shillings and sixpence each.

Ceanothus Azureus. (The Blue Ceanothus, or Redwood.)—A singularly pretty plant, with flowers of a delicate blue, the stamens standing prominently out, with anthers of golden yellow. The foliage is not large, in fact, this is the worst part about it; still it is very desirable. Plants, one shilling and sixpence each.

Cotoneaster Thymifolia. (The Thyme-leaved Cotoneaster).—An evergreen plant, of rather humble growth and recent introduction. The leaves are small, very close together, and of a shining dark green; the flowers are similar to the hawthorn, without the long footstalks, and are succeeded by small coral-coloured berries. Plants are worth one shilling to eighteenpence, according to their size.

Garrya Elliptica. (Elliptic-leaved Garrya.)—A beautiful evergreen plant, somewhat like the upright laurestinus. The flowers are produced about Christmas, and hang down something like the male blossoms or catkins of the nut, reaching often from six to eight inches in length, and have a very singular and pretty effect. Worth one shilling and sixpence per plant.

We are sometimes asked why such singular names are given to plants. The fact is, to distinguish them, they must have *some sort* of name. The first is termed the *generic*, or, if we may so call it, the surname of the family; the same as our name may be *Wood*. But then we want a distinctive name also, to distinguish one member of the family from another; just as our two lads are called the one John and the other Fred. Well then, this plant is called *Garrya*, after Nicholas Garrya, formerly secretary to the Hudson's Bay Company; but then there are several *Garryas*, or members of the family, and in order to tell one from the other, they have a *specific* or second name added, by which they are known all over the world. Botanists, whether Dutch, German, French, or English, even if they do not understand a word of

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each others language, all know what is meant by *Garrya elliptica*. We have thus endeavoured to explain what often seems a mystery to many, in as simple language as we can, in order that every one of our readers may know the reason *why*.

Cistus Formosa. (The Beautiful Rock Rose).—Well indeed does it deserve the appellation. A plant of rather delicate growth, and evergreen; producing in great profusion its flowers, which are yellow, the bottom of each petal being strongly marked with a blotch of dark crimson marone. Price one shilling and sixpence.

This last plant is the most tender of the six; but it will well repay a little extra attention, in nailing a mat, so as to hang loosely over it in severe weather. Let our readers who are anxious to have something superlatively beautiful, and at the same time not very expensive, purchase these, of their nearest nurserymen, and we are sure they will be so well satisfied, when they flower, that they will purchase the next half-dozen we recommend. It must be remembered, however, that these plants are adapted for low walls, for which they are admirably suited.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

[Continued from page 41.]

Albano (Rutley).—Second row. This, when let out, was classed as a byblœmen, but now a bizarre. Some seasons it will be with a short dark feather only, and bleaches to the byblœmen character; the next, perhaps, flame and feather, and tolerably steady in the bizarre character. From this uncertainty, it is now not much called for. I like it, notwithstanding its faults. Two shillings and sixpence.

Apollo.—Second-row bizarre. Good rich orange ground; sometimes feather, sometimes flame; should be grown. Seven shillings and sixpence.

Edgar (Walker).—Second or third-row bizarre. Marking in the way of Fabius, Spanish brown feather, some seasons with a little flame. This is a favourite with me. One or two of my intimate friends have it from me.

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Blæmart (Rutley).—Rich and good second-row byblœmen. Colour a mousey purple, if I may so call it. A favourite here, and in few hand. Ten shillings.

Sampson (Akers).—Third-row byblœmen. Distinctive character, indeed singular; creamy ground, prismatic-coloured beam, effective in a bed. Should be grown. In few hands.

Castilian (Pinder).—From the Pan. Breeder. Pinder superintended the late Mr. Clarke's collection. In few hands.

Duc de Reichstadt (Strong).—First-row bizarre. Singular, of no particular moment, but should be grown for its contrast. Five shillings.

George Canning (Strong).—Second-row bizarre. Red flame and feather. Five shillings.

Golden Fleece.—First-row bizarre. Fine yellow; red feather and flame, sometimes feather only; drawback, not clean in the base; nevertheless, a striking bed flower. Ten shillings.

Lord Byron (Franklin).—Second-row rosy byblœmen. Feather and flame.

Lord John Russell.—First-row bizarre. Brilliant yellow, rich dark feather, and a little flame. A sweet pretty little thing.

Major Beauclerk.—Very pretty second or third-row byblœmen, and the cup of good form. Broken by Pinder. Twenty shillings.

FLORICULTURAL IMPOSTORS.

BY THE EDITOR.

We do not think we should be doing our duty to our readers, were we not to caution them against characters of this kind. They exist in various forms throughout the kingdom, from the party who endeavours to sell you a black or yellow moss rose, to the Frenchman who opens a large shop in some populous town, with plants of the most *unheard of colours*, and the most *unheard of forms.*

Nottingham has often been visited by these gentry, who always find plenty of dupes; and parties who would not give a resident tradesman a shilling for a plant, will willingly give one of these *sharpers* five or ten, for plants of similar character. We wish we could impress on the minds of all our readers, that every good and new plant or shrub raised abroad, *is*

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sure immediately to find its way into the hands of British nurserymen; and they ought always to look with suspicion on plants *out of flower*, brought by strangers, who, when the period arrives for proving their honesty, are far away, laughing at the simplicity of those who have so foolishly believed them. The resident florist can generally be found, if he sells a wrong article; but we would ask any of the parties who have been *done Brown*, whether they ever caught sight of those *interesting foreigners* again.

We will give a case or two, out of many, that have come under our notice. A short time ago, a Frenchman opened a shop in Bridlesmith-gate, Nottingham, and put forth a list, in which were described many singular *tree pæonies*, *moss roses* of all colours, and amongst them a *yellow one*, with scores of other things equally rare. We gave our opinion repeatedly, that there was not, at that time, *a yellow moss rose in existence;* because, as we justly argued, the information respecting novelties is now so rapidly diffused, that such a plant would have been mentioned in some of the foreign periodicals, and we should have been sure to have noticed it in the *Midland Florist;* besides it would be so valuable, that the parties who raised it might sell hundreds at five guineas a piece, without *hawking* them. The consequence was, that his trade was spoilt for a time, and we hoped our townsmen would profit by the advice given; but the Frenchman changed his plan. He advertised that whoever purchased to the amount of thirty shillings, should have *a yellow moss rose on credit*, for which he was to be paid at his next visit. This was too good a chance to be lost. *The bait took*, and *Monsieur* very speedily reaped a rich harvest. What was the consequence? When summer came, the things turned out the veriest rubbish possible. *The Yellow Moss!!* was what we expected it would be—in some cases the Common Moss, and in others, no moss at all.

There were numbers of *poor men* in Nottingham who were *robbed by this vagabond;* and there are

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hundreds of others, in Nottingham and other large towns, who are ready to be fleeced and plucked by any *rascal* who *pretends* that he *cannot understand English*. Will our readers, when any of these wolves make their appearance amongst them, get the editor of the provincial paper to make an extract of the above, from the *Midland Florist?* It will save some poor fellow's pocket, and perhaps be the means of putting a stop to so villanous a system.

[To be continued.]

ANNUALS.

As March is generally the time for sowing annuals, may I be permitted to make a few remarks as to my mode of management, although it may not be very different from that of many of your readers; and also to give a list of thirty-six of the best that have come under my observation? In many places, they are neglected, although some of them are very beautiful. The hardy sorts should be sown about the end of the month, in the open border, or in pots, and put into a cold frame. My plan of sowing them in the borders is as follows:—In the first place, I fork up the ground where the seed is intended to be sown, with a small hand fork, an hour or two previously. I then get a pot, filled with light sifted mould; also some labels, with the names on, which should be got ready in the winter, as it saves a great deal of time when they are wanted, and in my opinion the writing is more lasting on a label which has been painted a sufficient time to allow it to get dry. I then put some sifted mould on the top of the bed, or border, where the seed is to be sown, and sow the seed, and cover it with a little more mould, and, if the weather is dry, water with a fine-rosed watering pot. They require a great deal of attention till they get about two or three inches high. Slugs are

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their greatest enemies. If the weather is dry, they must be watered, but not kept too wet, till they get stout plants. Their size and habits should be studied before they are sown, as some grow about six inches, and others three or four feet. They will vary in height, according to the soil they are in; but the person who supplies the seed will not mind the trouble of noting the height on the packets.

The half hardy sorts should be sown about the beginning of the month, in pots or pans, in light soil, and put into a warm place, to get them up. When they are one or two inches high, put them into a colder situation, till the weather is sufficiently fine for putting them out of doors. They will do either for small beds or in pots. I would recommend the following twelve half hardy varieties :—

Phlox Drummondii.—Crimson and various.
Zinnia Elegans.—Scarlet.
Zinnia Coccinea.—Vivid scarlet,
Senecio Elegans.—purple.
Calliopsis Drummondii.—Orange yellow.
Lobelia Gracilis.—Blue.
Martynia Fragrans.—Various.
Limnanthes Douglassii.—White and yellow.
Gaillardia Picta.—Yellow and scarlet.
Tagetes Humilis, or *French Marigold.*—Various.
Sphœnogyne Speciosa.—Yellow.
Portulaca Thellusonii.—Scarlet.

TWENTY-FOUR HARDY ANNUALS.

Lupinus Hartwegii.—Blue and white.
Lupinus Nanus.—Purple & blue.
Erysimum Peroffskianum.—Orange yellow.
Collinsia Bicolor.—White and purple.
Gilia Achilliæfolia.—Blue.
Gilia Tricolor.—Blue, light, and white.
Nemophilia Insignis.—Blue.
Platystemon Californica.—Lemon yellow.
Calandrina Speciosa.—Crimson.
Nolana Atricipifolia.—Blue and white.
Hibiscus Africana.—Pale straw, crimson eye.
Godetia Lindleyana.—Pale pink
Eutoca Viscida.—Azure blue.
Clarkia Pulchella.—Rose.
Bartonia Aurea.—Golden yellow
Convolvolus Tricolor.—White and blue.
Viscaria Cœli Rosa.—Bright scarlet.
Calliopsis Atropurpurea.—Dark crimson.
Schizopetalon Walkerii.—White
Malope Grandiflora.—Crimson.
Elichrysum Bracteatum.—White and yellow.
Silene Pendula.—Pink.
Godetia Rubicunda.—Light pink, red eye.
Papaver Amœnum.—Various.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

BEURRE LANGULIER PEAR.—A very excellent melting variety, adapted either for wall, standard, or pyramid. It is a a good bearer, and of rather large size. It is fit for use in January.

DOYENNE BOUSSOC PEAR.—This is an early sort coming in about the latter end of August. It bears most abundantly, and will make a profitable orchard pear; besides having the strong recommendation in its favour of fine quality and size.

INCONNUE VAN MONS PEAR.—This is not so large as either of the preceding, but is of very excellent quality. It keeps late, is melting, and bears well as standard or pyramid.

THE OGLE GROVE PIPPIN.—This is stated to be a very excellent variety; and in reply to our inquiries, we have been furnished with the following particulars:—Some years ago (says Mr. Davis), I found amongst some seedling apple stocks, about to be grafted, one that seemed very strong in its young wood, and having the appearance of a good sort. I had it planted out, and it came into bearing three years afterwards. I have had abundance of fruit on it for the last two years, which is very superior, and they will keep till June. They are in shape and colour much like the New London Pippin, but larger, and of superior flavour. It is considered, by amateurs as well as professional men, who have seen and

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tasted it, to be one of the best apples grown. The tree is of strong and healthy habit, and is a very profuse bearer.

FANCY DAHLIAS

HAVE of late years very much improved, and as they are becoming general favourites, we have selected from six or seven lists which have been sent to us, by amateurs as well as dealers, the following varieties, some of which we have grown, and for habit and contrast of colour, we can strongly recommend them.

Triomphe de Magdeburg.—Rather late. The flowers are scarlet, tipped with white.

Master George Clayton.—Crimson purple stripe, on white ground. If the petals were not quite so pointed, we should like it better.

Empereur de Maroc.—A fine dark flower, tipped with white.

Madame Wachy.—A large flower; purple, tipped with white.

Mimosa.—A very dwarf sort; yellow, with white tips.

Œillet Parfait.—This is singularly distinct; deep yellow, with red stripes.

These are well adapted for any of our readers who wish to grow six distinct sorts.

HERBACEOUS PERENNIAL PLANTS.

LOBELIA SPECIOSA WILLIAMSII (*Williams's Variety of Showy Lobelia.*)—Hardier than many of its race, rising about two feet, with very beautiful violet purple flowers. Desirable.

HEPATICA CŒRULEA VARIEGATA. (*The Blue Variegated Single Hepatica.*)—We notice this variety, not because it is very beautiful, but because it is very singular. We received it from the Continent, a few years ago, as a novelty, and it cost us a large sum. The flowers are mottled with white, but rather indistinctly.

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SAXIFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA. *(The Opposite-leaved Saxifrage.)*—One of the most beautiful dwarf hardy plants we know; not more than half an inch high, its foliage looks like a bed of moss, studded over with bright pink flowers. For rock work, or pot culture, it is well adapted, and is a general favourite with all who know it. It is a good plant, and deserves to be extensively cultivated. There are two other varieties, differing in the colour of their blossoms, which will come under our designation of rare plants, namely SAXIFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA PALLIDA and SAIXFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA ALBA, the former with pale pink, and the latter with white flowers.

GENTIANA ACAULIS ALBA. *(The White Gentianella.)*—The white is not very clear, but it is a good variety of a very pretty plant.

TREES AND SHRUBS.

TAXUS ADPRESSA, OR BREVIFOLIA. *(The Close-leaved Yew.)*—To those who are fond of new evergreen trees, this very neat and distinct variety of the yew will be acceptable.

FOX'S PURPLE BEECH.—This is a most beautiful variety, but the stock is still in the hands of Mr. Fox. It is of a more pendulous character than the common purple beech, and retains its foliage till very late in the spring.

GREENHOUSE AND HALF HARDY PLANTS.

HELIOTROPE GRISAU.—A recent addition to these favourite sweet-scented shrubs. It is much more compact in its habit of growth than some others, and bears a profusion of blue flowers, with conspicuous white centres.

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FANCY GERANIUM.—MAZEPPA SUPERBA.—Flowers well formed, with a pure white ground: top petals blotched with dark crimson purple, with even darker veins; the lower petals pencilled with light purple; centre and margin white.

FUCHSIA CORYMBIFLORA ALBA.—This is indeed a novelty. The only thing against it is its robust style of growth, but that will not, however, apply in large greenhouses or conservatories. It is more bushy and compact than the old Corymbiflora. The racemens, or bunches of flowers, are quite as large, and the tube is white; the petals throw themselves back well, displaying to great advantage the bright crimson corolla, which renders it extremely attractive.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTIVATION OF THE AURICULA IN THE OPEN GROUND.

BY A. BOUVART.

[Translated from the French, by J. Wood, jun. Continued from page 27.]

WEEDING requires some care. When the weeds begin to appear, it is necessary to eradicate them with a pair of small pointed scissors, by cutting just below the collar, and lifting them out. The weeds must not be pulled by the roots, for fear of drawing up at the same time the young plants, which have scarcely got hold of the soil.

During the first three months of their growth, it will be necessary to carefully dust them with sifted soot; repeating it every fortnight, or oftener, if the season is rainy. The best time is in the morning, before the dew has evaporated, or immediately after rain. The roots of the young auriculas are emitted so as to be exposed to the atmosphere, and are often

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above the soil. When the plants have attained a certain age, that is to say, after the first three months of growth, it is necessary alternately to dust them with soot and fine peat soil, to cover the roots which may be exposed. These small cares, requiring but little time, ought to be continued till the end of December, at which period there usually are very sharp frosts.

It frequently happens, from the minuteness of the seed, that the plants are too thick, it is therefore necessary to thin them till they stand about three inches from each other. This operation of transplanting should be performed about the first fortnight in September. They should then be removed to an east or west aspect; but it will be necessary to top-dress the young plants that remain in the seed bed, which have had their roots disturbed.

The frosts and thaws of winter will often lift the young plants out of the ground, and the rains uncover the roots. To remedy this, it will be requisite, at the beginning of the month of March, to give those on the beds a top-dressing likewise. If they should be attacked by snails, or any other vermin, more or less hurtful, then continue dusting them with soot, during March and part of April; that is to say, almost up to the time of flowering.

Blooming.—The general time of flowering is in May. Nevertheless, plants of a years' growth begin to show their flowers from the 15th of April till the 15th of June. As they expand, the best sorts are selected, and taken up with care, and placed in a bed prepared for that purpose, exposed to the east as much as possible, taking care not to let them have the morning sun above two or three hours. Those which are worthless are thrown in a heap, to form vegetable manure. If the young plants receive no serious check, about half of them will flower at this period; a fourth will not bloom till September, or December; and the rest will not flower at all, till the following spring. At the end of November, the plants which have not flowered will

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be standing unequally on the bed, and it will be necessary to transplant them also, into a border prepared to receive them.

The opinions of amateurs differ very much, and it is difficult to determine positively those which each prefers. I have sometimes suffered certain parties to choose from my seedlings, and they have often taken those I wished to retain. I have given the same permission to others, and the flowers which I kept for their singularity have obtained the preference. The auricula has, nevertheless, some characters or properties which are generally acknowledged as constituting a good flower:—a strong stem, to hold up a large truss, with large corollas, velvety bright colour bordering the petals, tube round and well open; the stigma must not exceed the height of the anthers, and these must not be higher than the tube of the corolla; the centre is white or yellow, but the margin is shaded or marked with the most beautiful colours. The double varieties have generally but one tint, and for this reason they are less esteemed than the single ones.

I have crossed the auricula with the primrose, and *vice versa;* and have obtained primroses of great beauty, of the most singular colours, and the texture of the flowers equalling that of an auricula; but I have not been so fortunate with the latter plant. The flowers of the auricula alone exhibited a slight modification, the foliage and other parts of the plant remained just as they were.

[To be continued.]

THE CULTURE OF THE VERBENA.

We promised to extract from the *Florist* an account of Mr. Wyness's system of cultivating the verbena. We now do so.

"I do not know if my system of propagating this favourite be new; but as it is simple, certain, and

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expeditious, it may be as well to state how I proceed from the commencement. I fill shallow pans (such as are used for placing under flower pots) to within a quarter of an inch of the top with silver sand, and pour in water sufficient just to cover the sand. I then make the cuttings in the usual way, and push them into the wet sand, put the labels to them, and place them in a hot-bed frame, where the heat ranges from sixty-five to seventy degrees, always keeping the sand wet. The advantages to be realized by propagating the verbena in this way are, that the cuttings never require to be shaded in the brightest sunshine, consequently the young plants are not drawn up long and lanky; the cuttings never stop growing from the time they are put in until they are ready to pot off, which is in about six or seven days, when they may be drawn out of the wet sand, with a bunch of roots, without injuring a single fibre."

[Since reading the above, we have tried the plan, and it aswers perfectly.—Ed. *M. F.*]

PRUNING WALL FRUIT TREES.

I do not know any one branch of horticulture that is so pleasing to the eye of the judicious gardener, as the training of wall fruit trees in a masterly way; and although you frequently find the peach and nectarine tolerably trained, yet I am astonished, that, wherever I go, I generally find the plum and apricot trees a disgrace to any practical gardener; the trees are often loaded with great bundles of spurs, frequently standing off the walls eight or ten inches, or more, the operator depending entirely for his future crop of fruit on those unsightly bundles, which he knows will blossom most profusely every year, though at the same time, unless the spring is very favourable, they generally disappoint his expectations. To keep up this hopeless system, the operator, during his

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summer dressings, cuts off all the young shoots (which ought to be laid in to the wall, to get matured for the next year's bearing wood), instead of reducing the spurs to give room for the young bearing wood for the following season; and this wood will as freely produce fruit as that of the peach and nectarine trees, if judiciously trained in the same manner. By that system, each blossom and fruit comes in contact with the wall, and is likewise protected above by the larger branches, so that it has every advantage the wall can give, or, in usual seasons, all that the hardy plum requires.

If I have plum or apricot trees to reduce from the luckless spurring method to the successional young wood system, and without losing the best chance for a fine crop, I cut off close to the branches all the foreright spurs, and as many of the others as are not well placed, or will not force in close to the wall with nail and shred; and those that will not lay close to the wall I cut out; still I retain sufficient for a plentiful blossom and crop, and by laying in close to the wall so much of the spur wood, it checks the too greatly luxuriant and consequently barren wood, which would not be the case, if the spurs were to be too much reduced the first season. During the summer, by a judicious discipline, an abundance of fine young fructiferous wood will be produced from every part of the branches; so that by the winter pruning, the operator can make his selection at equidistances—each shoot in its required place—always, however, selecting from the upper side of the main leader, and never from the under sides; and gradually reducing the old laid in spurs, so that in two seasons very little or none of that unsightly spur wood will be required, as, by that time, every part of the tree can be regularly furnished with a well-arranged supply of fine blooming and certainly bearing wood, the same as any peach tree. By taking off so much encumbering wood, worse than useless, the leading shoots are enabled to extend, so as to convey the tree over a

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wall of considerable extent, healthy and vigorous; and readily kept free from insects of any kind, by timely attention.

The apricot is rarely attacked by any other insect than a leaf-grub, whose appearance is very quickly seen. This must be carefully picked out and destroyed, and in this state, by attention, the whole may be exterminated in one season. The plum has many enemies, but by a timely attention in washing the trees forcibly with strong lime-water, poured off in a clear state, and this again medicated by sulphur, in the same manner, and mixed with soft soap, when they appear any way infested with insects, all will soon disappear. When the trees are only partially affected with red spider, or thrip, the dry sulphur blown amongst them sends them off; and green fly, partially affecting them, is readily destroyed by sprinkling tobacco liquor amongst them, being careful that it is not too strong, so as to injure the leaves.

I never found plum trees to do well under any of the usual coverings; but the best for all wall tree fruits, is a tolerably wide-meshed woollen netting, about two yards wide, fixed under the coping of the wall, and to form a large angle of forty-five degrees, stretched to a rail, nailed to the top of strong poles, driven into the border, about a yard from the wall, about six or eight feet high. This thin, but distant covering, will be found amply sufficient to protect the blossom in all ordinary seasons, in any part of this country. Apricots will bear a closer and thicker covering than plums, but the distant woollen netting is best for all, and with care, will last many years, if put by dry, and the moths kept from it.

No kind of covering should be left on too long, else the attempted remedy will be worse than the disease; and I think the sort of covering which I have found the best, can be left on for a longer period than any other, but in no case should I be disposed to put on the covering until more than one-half the blossoms were expanded; and if a frosty

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night were to destroy those, there would be plenty left to protect for a crop; for, when once the covering is put on, it has to remain until the fruit is the size of grapes, and the leaves are sufficiently expanded to protect it.

Gardener's Journal.

FINE SHOWY BIENNIALS.

BIENNIAL plants are those which do not usually flower the first year they are sown, but after standing through the winter, produce their flowers, perfect their seed, and having thus fulfilled their mission, *die.* Mr. Gordon, a good authority in such matters, gives, in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, six, of different colours, which are very ornamental. When our readers are purchasing their flower seeds, we would advise them to get a packet of each. Any respectable seedsman can supply them; and on reference to our advertising sheets, they will find several. Mr. Gordon has not given the popular, or English names, which we supply, as far as we can, as our readers generally understand those best.

Coreopsis (Calliopsis) Atkinsonia. (Atkinson's Coreopsis.)—grows from one foot and a half to two feet in height, branched, and rather erect. The flowers are bright yellow, about the size and very like those of Calliopsis tinctoria, but destitute of the dark centre. It blooms freely and remains long in perfection. It comes from the north-west coast of America.

Pentstemon speciosum. (The Showy or Beautiful Pentstemon.)—Attains a height of from three to four feet, with hardly any side branches. In habit it is rather erect; the flowers are an azure blue of various tints, large, and produced in long spikes; it blooms profusely, remains long in perfection, and, when well grown, is one of the most beautiful hardy biennials in cultivation. It is from the same country as the preceding.

Hedysarum coronarium. (The Garland Hedysarum.)—From three to four feet in height, rather spreading. The flowers are bright scarlet, large, and very handsome. It blooms freely, remains long in perfection, and is a native of Italy. There is a variety of this with white flowers, which is also very ornamental.

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Campanula medium. (The Medium Bell-flower.)—About two feet in height, branching, and rather erect. The flowers are large, and of various tints, from deep blue to white; on some plants they are double. It blooms abundantly, and remains long in perfection. It is well known under the name of Canterbury Bells.

Scabiosa atropurpurea. (The Dark Purple Scabious.)—About a foot and a half to two feet in height, rather spreading. The flowers are of various shades, from dark crimson, or deep purple, to white and variegated. It blooms very abundantly, and remains long in perfection.

Catananche bicolor. (The Two coloured Catananche.)—Attains a height of from twelve to eighteen inches, rather spreading and much branched. The flower-heads are white, and rather large in size, with a deep purple centre; they are very handsome. It blooms freely, remains a considerable time in perfection, and comes from the south of Europe.

For early flowers, every cottage garden should possess the following spring-flowering bulbs, &c. which may be purchased at a low rate:—

HERBACEOUS PLANTS.	BULBS.
Heleborus Niger. (Christmas Rose.)	*Scilla Siberica.*—Dark blue.
Hepatica.—Four varieties.	*Leucojum Vernum.*—White, with green edge.
Sissyrinchum Grandiflora.—Purple.	*Galanthus Plicatus.*—White and green.
Anemone Hortensis.—Twenty varieties.	*Narcissus Minor.*—Yellow.
Double Primrose.—In varieties.	*Denscanis.*—White and red.
Pulmonaria.—Six sorts.	*Winter Aconite.*—Yellow.

G. I. F.

GROWING SAVOYS.—Last spring, I set ten Drumhead Savoy Cabbage Plants, in an eight-yard row, across my garden, and suffered them to grow without manure, until the first week in June, keeping the ground rough and loose a considerable distance round them. I then gave them a barrowful of sink mud, spreading it equally and close to the stem, and soiled with the spade, taking care to cover the mud well from the action of the sun. They grew vigorously, and early in September, I cut to the amount of one hundred and fifty pounds weight, exclusive of the rough leaves.—T. W., *Newcastle.*

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TO PREVENT RABBITS BARKING TREES.—A correspondent, after alluding to the mischief these animals do him, says, "I cannot catch the rabbits, but think I have prevented them from touching the young trees again, simply by saturating a besom in the wash from the house (urine), and then sprinkling it over the young trees. They have not touched them since."

REVIEWS & SPIRIT OF THE PERIODICALS.

THE FLORIST is embellished with the figure of a most splendid dahlia, called *Beauty of Hastings*. The principal articles are, on the Dahlia, Fuchsia, Spring Flowers, Glance at the Dahlia Trade, List of Fancy Dahlias, &c. We give the following hints for training the geranium:—"If you have a nice young healthy and stocky plant to operate upon, it is better, but not absolutely necessary. If you have, pinch off its head, and when it breaks out at the sides, either peg down the side branches, as nearly straight out as you can, without tearing the joint, or tie them down, which must be done thus: tie a string tightly round the pot, just under the rim, and under this pass a loop of thick worsted, over the end of each branch, to keep it down in the position you wish it to grow in. When the branches reach out as far as you wish them, a little beyond the rim of the pot you mean the plant to flower in, pinch off their ends, and after they have pushed out their eyes into branches, you may remove the strings, and you have thenceforth *a trained plant*, to last you many years, and each year better than the last."

THE HISTORIC TIMES.—A most excellent illustrated weekly newspaper. It contains much in our way. There are engravings of flowers, plans and designs of school houses, &c., independent of gorgeous and

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truthful illustrations of remarkable places and passing events. How valuable will works of this description be to those who live in future years; forming as they do, not only a history of England in our own times, but also a history of the world. We cannot say too much in favour of this excellent periodical.

A TREATISE ON THE PRACTICAL CULTURE OF THE POTATO, SHOWING THE GREAT ADVANTAGES RESULTING FROM JUDICIOUS MANAGEMENT AT AN EARLY PERIOD OF ITS GROWTH, ETC. By Abraham Hardy and Son, Maldon, Essex.—An interesting pamphlet, of eight pages, containing hints of much importance to cultivators of the potato, and to whose perusal we strongly recommend it. As a specimen of the style, we give the following extract, on planting potatoes, which will, we trust, prove seasonable to our readers:—"If it is desired to plant previous to March (which we highly recommend), the land being brought into proper tilth, as above prescribed, should be marked into drills, four or five inches deep, and twenty-seven inches apart, and the sets, or whole potatoes of a middling size, say as large as walnuts, planted nine inches distant, and about a teacupful of *coal ashes and soot* heaped over each set, to prevent the attacks of intruding insects and frost. Then, with a hoe, cover them with the light dry mould, forming a slight ridge. Lastly, let the whole be completed, with the spade or plough, raising the said ridge as high as possible, so that the drill forms exactly the centre. The sets thus secured from wet, frost, and insects, no further care is necessary till the end of March, when the whole may be forked down level, and treated in the ordinary way."

GRAHAM'S SCIENCE OF HUMAN LIFE.—A cheap edition of a most interesting and useful work. We have read the parts received with much pleasure, and we trust with profit. It is a work we strongly recommend.

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Part III.

OBITUARY.

VERY many florists, throughout the empire, who have at various times visited the famed collections of florists' flowers, cultivated by Mr. George Lightbody, of Falkirk, North Britain, will learn with sincere regret, that Mrs. Lightbody departed this life on January 31st, last past, literally of a broken heart, at the fate of her first-born. Those who knew her, and who have experienced her kindness and hospitality, will feel for the sad bereavement which Mr. Lightbody has sustained.

QUERIES.

Perhaps some of your correspondents will be kind enough to assist a person who is desirous of trying the experiment of rearing the silk worm, in the west of Ireland, with the ultimate view of affording employment, by pointing out where the proper kind of mulberry trees can be obtained. Some years ago, I believe, a new species was introduced, from the South Sea Islands, which comes earlier into leaf than the common mulberry. I wish to be informed where this species is to be procured, on the most reasonable terms. Any hints on the subject will be most acceptable to

Ireland, Feb. 1849. A CONNAUGHT SUBSCRIBER.

Will Mr. Wood, or any other friend, be kind enough to state, in an early number, the best work for a young man to purchase, upon all the British flowering plants (cryptogameous not minded so much), with the plainest and most correct descriptions of their generic and specific characters, and all the latest improvements, upon the Linnæan system, at a moderate price? I have a tolerably good knowledge of the classes and orders, which I have acquired from *Castle's Introduction to Botany;* and will it be necessary to get a newer introduction, for references? an answer will greatly oblige a reader of the *Midland Florist* from the commencement. A YOUNG GARDENER.

[Get *Sowerby's English Botany;* also *Lindley's School Botany,* a most excellent work for young beginners, having nearly four hundred illustrations. It is also reasonable in price.]

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In the next number of the *Midland Florist*, will you have the goodness to inform me of the best method of cultivating the vegetable marrow and tomato? By so doing, you will confer a favour. S. PRICE.

I am training a few young vines, which it is my intention to prune on the spur system. This is their third season. The two laterals, which were allowed to grow last year, I have cut back to one bud; and have a strong shoot of four feet, which is full of plump buds, trained to the rafter. Being a tyro in vine culture, will you be so kind as to inform me whether I must cut out any of these buds, or allow them all to make spurs? If, as I suppose, a portion of them must be removed, at what distance on the shoots should the spurs be allowed to remain for fresh bearing? H.

[The buds may be permitted to break, that is, put forth their shoots, which should be pinched off at the second joint, sometime during the summer, of which we will give due notice in the calendar. The leading shoot, up the rafter, must be carefully tied and encouraged.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CULTIVATION OF TIPPED DAHLIAS.—A most successful cultivator of these flowers, in reply as to the effect of salt, &c. on their colours, states as follows:—"I have never tried salt: we mix a large quantity of old mortar, or the fine part of any rubbish heaps, with plenty of coarse sand. This is when and where the soil is rich and strong."

FUCHSIAS.—I think "A Constant Subscriber," Leek, will find the following twelve varieties to suit his purpose, and they may be procured of any nurseryman, for a little money. They are all free bloomers, and some of them will, with ordinary culture, attain a height of six or eight feet in one season. They will grow well in a compost of one-third good turfy loam, one-third peat and leaf mould in equal quantities, and one-third rotted cow dung, well mixed together, and a quantity of silver or river sand added. The plants must not be over-potted, particularly when young.

DARK.	Formosa elegans	One-in-the-Ring
Ne plus ultra	Colossus	Leucantha
Corallina		Delicata
Exoniensis	LIGHT.	Acantha
Nicholsii	Purity (Mayles)	Dr. Jephson

M. WOODHOUSE.

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CALCEOLARIAS.—The editor of the *Gardener's Journal* gives the following six as very desirable south country varieties :—

Kinghorn's Gustavus.—A magnificent variety; corolla large, round, and well inflated, with a pretty shaped mouth; colour claret, interlined with yellow.

Kinghorn's Purity.—A very perfect variety; flower average size, form excellent, colour pale primrose, with a round blotch of crimson on the face of the flower.

Kinghorn's Cavalier.—A pretty dark variety; corolla round and beautiful, colour a splendid mixture of claret and orange. A desirable addition to any collection.

Gaines's Aspasia.—A good shaped flower; colour light buff, intermingled with bright crimson; well calculated for a show flower.

Gains's Earl St. Germains.—A favourite flower with the raiser, who should know a good flower; colour rich reddish brown, chequered with sulphur.

Gains's Miranda.—A well formed flower, and very attractive; colour buff ground, spotted with rose; prettily arranged.

Your querist who was disappointed in the verbenas for bedding, will find the following good :—

Speciosissima.—Bright crimson.
Heloise (Dufoy).—Purple.
Lenormand (Chauviere).—Fine deep scarlet, with dark centre.
Royal Purple (Young).
Barkerii.—Scarlet.
Orpha (Chauviere).—Pale purple, dark centre.
Emperor of China (Ivery).—Splendid crimson.
Valentine de Sareuse.—Beautiful blue.
White Perfection.—Very good white.
Morning Star (Wymess).—Purple, white centre.
Defiance (Robinson).—Rich scarlet.
Minerva (Chauviere).—Very good pink.

H. S. M.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR MARCH.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

EVERYBODY supposes he knows how to plant *potatoes*, and yet how very much opinions differ. It is, however, pretty clearly ascertained by the editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, from an immense number of returns, from all parts of the United

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Kingdom, that the risk of obtaining a crop of sound *potatoes* on heavy cold land, is very great. We would advise planting directly, and where the soil is of the above character, forming it into beds, by throwing out the soil on each side, to the depth of eighteen inches, and thus making small open drains; and instead of animal manure, we would apply salt, soot, lime, &c. Plant the *potatoes* whole; and if the plan of Messrs. Hardy (noticed in this month's number) is adopted, so much the better. From the serious loss entailed on cottagers, we would also recommend earlier varieties; they are generally got off the land sooner, so as to give a chance of planting succession crops of *turnips*, *early cabbage*, *Brussels sprouts*, &c. Independent of which, they appear less susceptible of the disease, than when allowed to remain in the ground to a late period of the autumn.

Beans are a strong wholesome vegetable, and should be all in the ground for the main crop. The Windsor, Toker, and Green Windsor are excellent sorts; but Johnson's Wonder, an improvement on the common Longpod, is early, of good flavour, and a most abundant bearer, the pods often reaching the great length of nine to twelve inches.

Peas.—Novelties and improvements in these favourite vegetables come thick and fast upon us. It is an easy matter to sow *peas*. So it is; but there is a superior way: and that superior way is to give more room between the rows, and to sow the seed very much thinner than is ordinarily done. If rows of *peas* are put in six feet asunder, they will bear better, and at the same time give room for a trench for *celery*, which, if carefully managed, and no unnecessary treading of the soil is allowed, may, at the proper season, be put in, and thus keep the ground under constant crop, a point of the first importance in small gardens. Of new sorts, that will be worth growing, we have Thurston's Reliance, Fairbeard's Surprise and Champion of England, Lincoln Green-podded Marrow, &c.; and as these will bear finer and better *peas* than some of the old sorts, they should be tried; still, for general purposes, we would strongly recommend the old Scimitar, as a dwarf good-cropping variety.

Turnips should be sown the latter end of the month. The best kind for first crop may be Early Dutch, succeeding with Snowball, or Sixweeks.

Onions, *spinach*, *Brussels sprouts*, *carrots*, and *parsnips* should be got in without delay; and towards the latter end of the month, *celery*, *cauliflowers*, *asparagus*, and *parsley*. Of this last, Myatt's Garnishing is a first-rate sort.

Dress over *asparagus beds* with a fork, and fresh soil them with compost from the alleys, into which dig a good quantity of rotten dung, for next year's use. *Cauliflowers* may be planted in these alleys with great advantage. Make fresh *mint beds*; and propagate *sage*, *thyme*, *mint*, &c. by cuttings.

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FLOWER GARDEN.

This will be a good time for sowing *hardy annuals*, a list of which will be found in this month's number, and in our first volume. Divide *perennial plants*, such as *phloxes*, *delphineums*, &c.; and plant out *Canterbury bells*, *scabiouses*, *mule pinks*, *wall-flowers*, &c. which have been raised from seed, or propagated, during the past autumn. Protect *tulip beds* from excessive frost. If the weather is open, begin to pot out *carnations* and *picotees*. Attend well to *pink beds*; fork the soil slightly over, without injuring the roots, and give a top-dressing of very rotten manure.

Propagate *dahlias*, by cuttings of the shoots; in moist heat, these will soon emit roots. Take care that *seedling ranunculuses*, *tulips*, *polyanthuses*, and *auriculas*, are not too much exposed to wet and frost.

Pelargoniums for the May shows should be half an inch out of the heart of the shoots. A little manure water, once a week, greatly assists them, but it must not be too strong. Keep them clear from green fly; and after smoking them, give them a good washing with a syringe. Give plenty of air, when the weather is mild and the wind is not high.

GREENHOUSE.

Repot *verbena cuttings* which have been kept in store pots during the winter; pinch off the tops, to induce a bushy habit, and get them well established, previous to planting out in May. *Geraniums*, *fuchsias*, &c. should be potted in rather larger pots, and in richer compost.

Give rather more water to the stock generally. Some few shrubs potted and grown in the greenhouse have a good effect. *Deutzia scaber* may be mentioned, with its hundreds of small snowdrop-like blossoms.

In frames, sow *tomatoes*, *cucumbers*, *capsicums*, *vegetable marrows*, &c.

Sow *fuchsia seed*. Continue to sow *tender annuals*, and pot off those which were sown last month, that are ready to remove.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Let all pruning, training, &c. be done as early as possible. *Fruit trees* and *evergreens* may still be planted. Grafting, in consequence of the forwardness of the season, should be proceeded with. *Wall fruit tree blossoms* may be protected; and the digging and manuring between *gooseberries* and *currants* should be finished forthwith.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE CALCEOLARIA.

BY MR. M. WOODHOUSE, WHITBY.

THE amateur florist has a valuable friend in your excellent little work, and every one must feel deeply interested in its welfare. The *Midland Florist* has been the means of imparting much useful information, and many clever treatises on the cultivation of flowers and plants have from time to time appeared in its pages. Where different modes of treatment have been pursued, we have the observations and results of practical experience fully detailed with various degrees of success, operating as a guide to the inexperienced florist, by pointing out the best course to be adopted in the cultivation of his favourite flowers.

An opinion, which I find is very prevalent among florists, that the calceolaria is difficult to cultivate to any extent successfully, has induced me to offer a few observations on the mode of its culture, in detailing briefly a system which I have adopted with considerable success for several years. With suitable soils, frequent repottings when in a growing state, and regular attention as to watering and shading the plants in hot weather, with a few other "little attentions," which the assiduous florist will be sure to supply, I contend that there is no kindlier-growing plant than the calceolaria, nor any that may be grown to "specimens" in so short a time. The plants may be cultivated either in pits or a greenhouse, with a south or south-east aspect, and where they must be kept cool and well shaded in summer,

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and protected from frost in winter, using as little fire-heat as possible, and giving air at all times when practicable. I have appended a list of twelve useful varieties to begin with, and which may be added to according to circumstances.

The early part of this month (March) is the time the trade usually send out their plants, particularly the new varieties, and which are generally, at this period, well established in four or five-inch pots. The plants, if healthy, will now be in an active growing state, and may at once be repotted into pots a size larger; and you may continue shifting them as the fibres touch the sides of the pots, until you get them into the sizes you intend to bloom them in. Let the compost consist of about equal quantities of good friable loam, peat, vegetable mould, and well-rotted cow dung, adding thereto a liberal quantity of silver or river sand. If the plants are very gross, add a little more loam; if delicate, let the peat and vegetable mould predominate. After repotting, water the plants through a fine rose, using tepid water, and keep them close for a few days, until established in the fresh compost, and then admit air freely, if the weather is mild. As the days increase in length, and the sun in power, constant attention as to watering will be necessary; and once a week, a solution of manure or guano water, not too strong, may be used with advantage. Fumigate every two or three weeks, with tobacco smoke, to destroy the green fly, which appears to be particularly fond of the young and tender foliage of the calceolaria, and which, if allowed to feed thereon, will soon destroy both the beauty and the health of the plant. Draw the syringe over the plants, after fumigating, and also occasionally on a warm evening.

If the above directions have been strictly attended to, by the middle of May the plants will be coming finely into bloom; and the diversity of colour and marking which our varieties now possess, renders the calceolaria a most beautiful and interesting tribe

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of plants, which will furnish a grand display till the middle of July, and fully repay the florist for the attention their culture requires. When the flowers begin to die, cut down the stems (unless the plants are wanted for seed, and directions for saving seed and raising seedlings will be treated on in a future number), top-dress the plants with the ordinary compost, and set them in a cool and airy situation. After the plants have done flowering is the most critical time with the calceolaria, and unless they are then *nursed a little*, the chances are against you; and here it is, I believe, where many cultivators fail;—as soon as the beauty of the plant is over, it is put aside and neglected, and the old plants and all chance of increase consequently lost, and thus its culture is given up in despair. However, with ordinary attention at this trying season, they will soon begin to throw new shoots, which may be taken off when about two inches long, for increase.

The offsets or cuttings will strike freely when placed in peaty soil and sand, in wide-mouthed pans, under a bell-glass. A gentle bottom heat will facilitate their striking. In October, if well rooted, pot them off into four-inch pots, in which they may be wintered, requiring no more attention than is requisite to protect them from frost. Keep the house or frame free from damp, the plants clear of fly, and water occasionally. Night dews are at all times highly beneficial, when they can be admitted with safety, particularly to the young plants.

TWELVE GOOD CALCEOLARIAS.

Van Tromp (Kinghorn).—Orange, chequered with brown.
Masterpiece (Kinghorn).—Orange, with marone markings.
Julia (Kinghorn).—Light cream, with crimson spots.
Marquetry (Kinghorn).—Crimson, chequered with yellow.
Symmetry (Kinghorn).—Yellow, with small brown spots in the centre.
Yellow Standard (Kinghorn).—Superb yellow self.
Refulgence (Kinghorn).—Almost scarlet, with slight orange markings.
Mutabilis (Major).—Yellow, with large dark brown spots.

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Tricolor Superb (Holmes).—Cream ground, deep marone and pink spots.
Holmesii (Holmes).—Creamy ground, chocolate spots.
Duchess of Athol (Anderson)—Light ground, blackish marone markings.
Lord Fullerton (Anderson).—Orange ground, fiery scarlet markings.

HARDY HEATHS.

BY MR. G. F. FOX, CLIFF VALE NURSERY, NEAR LEEK.

As the cultivation of hardy heaths is much neglected, I send you a list of about thirty species and varieties. There are several other varieties, of less importance. I think a finer race of plants does not exist, for different purposes; such as planting in masses, or single plants, bordering, &c. or for rock-work. Witness those growing at Mrs. T. B. Philips's, at the Heath House, near Tean, Staffordshire. I do not know any family of plants that vary so much in their habits as the heaths, growing in some places six inches high, and the same sort, in other situations, attaining three feet. I consider it one of the best bee flowers we possess; blooming from March to October, requiring little attention, and growing in almost any soil, although it flourishes most luxuriantly in sandy peat. Nearly allied to the heaths, and would answer for the above purposes, is the Menziesia polifolia, of which there are about twelve varieties.

Erica Vulgaris Rubra.—Height, 1 to 2 feet. Colour, red.
Alba.—1 to 3 feet. White.
Double-flowered.—1 to 2 feet. Rose. Extremely handsome.
Pallida.—1 to 2 feet. Pale pink.
Coccinea.—6 to 12 inches. Dark scarlet.
Argentia Variegata.—1 to 2 feet. Pale. The foliage variegated with white.
Aurea (Golden-branched).—6 to 12 in. Pale red.
Dumosa (Dwarf).—6 inches. Pale red.
Foxea (Moss-like).—2 to 4 inches. Seldom flowers. A very singular and neat variety.
Allportii.—1 to 2 feet. Crimson. Very beautiful.

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Erica Cinerea Rubra.—1 to 2 feet. Red.
Alba.—6 inches to 2 feet. White.
Purpurea.—4 to 6 inches. Purple.
Atropurpurea.—4 to 6 inches. Dark purple.
Coccinea.—4 to 6 inches. Scarlet.
Tetralix Rubra.—6 to 12 inches. Red.
Alba.—6 inches to 2 feet. White.
Pallida.—6 inches to 2 feet. Pale blush.
Aurea (Golden-branched).—6 to 12 inches. Red.
Mackeyana.—6 to 12 inches. Rose.
Carnea, or Herbacea.—6 to 12 inches. Flesh.
Stricta (Upright).—18 inches to 3 feet. Blush.
Ramulosa.—6 to 12 inches. Red.
Austrialis.—2 to 3 feet. Purple.
Mediterranean.—18 inches to 3 feet. Purple.
Hibernica.—1 to 2 feet. Flesh.
Scorparia.—6 to 12 inches. Pale green.
Cilearis (Portugal).—6 to 12 inches. Rose.
Vagrans, or Multiflora Rubra.—1 to 3 feet. Red.
Pallida.—1 to 3 feet. Rose.
Alba.—1 to 3 feet. White.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF ROSE TULIPS,

BROKEN INTO COLOUR BY MR. GROOM, CLAPHAM RISE.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Countess Blessington.—Fourth row. Fine bold flame, large cup, and good shape; beautiful cherry colour. This would be a great acquisition in any collection, especially as there is a great dearth of good fourth-row roses. £3 3s.

Countess Clanwilliam.—Third row. A beautiful feather, first-rate shape, a splendid cherry colour, and a superb flower. I recommend this strongly. The price is rather high. If my memory do not deceive me, I think Mr. Groom is short in stock of this. £10 10s.

Countess Essex.—Second row. A good feather; as to shape, not the Hardy standard of perfection, but pretty good; nevertheless, recommended as a pretty flower. £1 1s.

Countess Wilton.—Third row. A splendid flower; colour rich and well marked, shape fine; a first-rate flower, and I think would do for you in the country. £3 3s.

Duchess of Sutherland.—Second row. A capital bold feather; shape good. This is much admired here, and is, moreover, cheap; at least I consider it so. £1 1s.

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King of Saxony.—Fourth row. Flamed, and remarkably rich colour; good bold shape, and stands well up. I must speak more of this at or after the bloom. £10 10s.

Lady Douro.—Second row. A delicate feathered flower, very pretty, all the properties good, much esteemed, a decided beat of an extra-fine Lavinia. 15s.

Persiani.—First row. A fine feather, shape good, and a most desirable thing. This is one of my pets. £2 2s.

Venus.—Second row. Feather; colour dark, rather a rosy purple. Pretty. 10s. 6d.

THE HYDRANGEA, WITH BLUE FLOWERS.

HAVING at various times seen some magnificent plants, blooming most profusely, and bearing large heads of the most beautiful blue flowers imaginable, at Clifton Hall, near Nottingham, the seat of Sir Juckes Clifton, Bart. we made application to Mr. Florendine, for information relative to his system of management, as we felt sure that any thing calculated to assist our readers in attaining so desirable a result, in which very many fail, would be duly appreciated. Mr. Florendine has kindly sent us the following communication:—

"Agreeably with your request, I send you my method of growing the Hydrangea hortensis, so as to produce blue flowers, and I trust it will be interesting to those of your readers who delight in the cultivation of this fine old plant.

"I have grown it the last seven years in this beautiful character, with unvarying success.

"In March, I take strong cuttings, and plant them in a pot of peat soil (that which does not abound in sand I consider preferable), and place them in a cucumber frame, till they are well rooted; when they are potted off, in three-inch pots, using similar soil, and replaced in the frame for a few days. I then remove them to a greenhouse or vinery. In the latter I find them attain the greatest perfection, both as regards size and colour.

"In the next place, I may observe, that the liquid with which these plants are watered is made by dissolving three ounces of alum in two gallons of water, to which I add half an ounce of soda; and I take care, from the time the cuttings are put in till the period of blooming, that they are always watered with the

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above solution, which I consider the principal cause of their assuming the beautiful colour they do.

"In order to ensure large plants and fine colours, the plants should undergo several shifts, or repottings, as they grow freely, and the roots soon fill the pots.

"I have at this time a plant with eight bunches of blue flowers, produced by the above treatment; and I strongly recommend your readers to give the system a trial, feeling assured it will answer their expectations.

"JOSEPH FLORENDINE."

CULTIVATION OF THE BALSAM.

BY MR. J. G. HAMES, OLD RADFORD, NEAR NOTTINGHAM.

THE balsam, when grown to perfection, requires much time, labour, and attention, which, indeed, it well repays; but the amount of time and attention thus exacted seems to have operated against its general cultivation, and the consequence has been, that English florists have much neglected it.

This favourite annual is placed in the fifth class (Pentandria) and first order (Monogynia) of the Linnæan classification; and in the natural system it gives its own name to it sorder—Balsaminceæ. The balsam being an annual plant, I have only to view it with reference to the best mode of its treatment, so as to procure the strongest, most healthy, and most freely flowering plants, and then to its management while flowering. I shall first, then, make a few observations on the proper time for sowing the seed.

With respect to the seed of the garden balsam, the most observant and intelligent florist asserts that it is improved by being kept,—that the seed which has been ripened three years previously will produce better flowers than that which is newer,—and that this improvement in the quality of the seed goes on increasing for years. On the other hand, seed matured in the previous autumn never produces double flowers.

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I would recommend the amateur florist to purchase his balsam seed of a respectable seedsman, and sow it in rich light mould, in seed pans, in the beginning of April, and sink the pans in a cucumber or melon bed. This sowing will furnish him with plants for early flowering.

Early in May, you must sow for a succession, and from these you must expect to raise your very large plants, and look for your largest flowers. If you have not the convenience of a hot-bed, you may, nevertheless, grow them to great perfection. Sow your seed in rich earth, in a large pot, nearly filled with soil, and place the pot in a warm window, covering it with a piece of common glass.

When the young balsams are about two inches high, they may be potted off singly, into sixty-sized pots, and returned to the frame, and kept close until they have recommenced growing, when air may be given. They should be again shifted in a fortnight, and this process of shifting must be continued until the plants have attained their full size. At every shifting the next larger sized pot must be used, and the utmost care must be taken not to break the ball of earth, or injure the roots. The soil should consist of light turfy loam, well decomposed dung, and leaf-mould, in equal quantities, together with a little sand. This compost will be found to suit them admirably.

Large Plants and Flowers.—By transplanting only three or four times, from forty-eight-sized pots to those of eight inches diameter, I produce balsams four feet high, and fifteen feet in circumference, with strong thick stems, furnished with side branches from bottom to top, and covered with large double flowers. To obtain large plants, the seed should be sown in March; and as soon as the young plants show their first serrated leaves, they should be potted off singly, in light rich soil, in small pots, which you must plunge up to the rim in the frame; and when the plants are established, prop up the frame at the back, so that they may have plenty of air. In ten days

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after the first shift, remove them into a pot whose diameter is an inch larger than the one they occupy; afterwards increase the time between each shift, and use the next sized pot. The soil should be light whilst the plants are young, but on each occasion of shifting, you must gradually diminish the quantity of sand, and form a stronger and richer compost, by using more loam and dung and less peat, so that by the time you have shifted them into the pots in which you intend them to flower, the soil may consist of two-thirds rich loam and one-third thoroughly decomposed dung. As the season advances, give on all favourable occasions abundance of air; pick off all the first flowering buds; and when your plants have attained the desired magnitude, do not shift them again, but administer occasionally a little liquid manure. When they have arrived at this stage, a hot-bed is not necessary. The plants should be grown short-jointed, which makes them more hardy, look neater, and best adapted to the purpose of the amateur. While the plants are in the hot-bed, the light may often be taken off, but must be replaced early in the afternoon. Light, air, and water, those essentials to the healthy growth of the balsam, must be provided for, and that at the proper season, or your plants will never yield you pleasure. If in the frame or house, they must be kept close to the glass, and whenever the weather is fine and warm, they must be allowed all the air they can have, in the afternoon; and if placed under the direct influence of the sun, they will require watering several times in the day. Liquid manure, occasionally given, will be of service; and whether this or pure water be used, it should be of the same temperature as the atmosphere of the apartment in which the plants are placed.

Blooming.—The prevailing colours of the petals of the balsam are red and white, and red extending to every shade of orange, purple, pink, lilac, scarlet, and especially carnation or flesh colour. Those are esteemed the most beautiful varieties which have the

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flowers double, and striped in the manner of a flake or bizarre carnation; but none of the varieties are permanent, nor can they be perpetuated by seed, and the plant does not root readily by cuttings. The bloom is naturally durable, and if sufficient air be given, and the plants are protected from wind and rain, they may be preserved in flower through the autumn. When forming seed pods, they will require as constant watering as when growing.

BALSAMS IN THE OPEN GROUND.—These pretty flowers are occasionally seen in the open garden, sometimes, but very rarely, in beatiful condition. Should the amateur determine to try the experiment of growing them in such a situation, I would recommend him to choose a border with a south aspect, and well sheltered from cold winds. When first planted out they must be sheltered from the sun for a few days, till they have taken root, and afterwards be abundantly supplied with water. In my garden the balsam may be seen in great perfection; they attain the size of a shrub, and are covered with flowers. Some of the varieties bear double flowers, as large as a moderate-sized rose.

CUCUMBER GROWING.

BY MR. SAUL, GARSTANG, LANCASHIRE.

A NOVEL mode of cultivating these vegetables has been tried in this vicinity. A grocer has used raisin boxes for this purpose, and I saw his crop last year, and considered it far superior to any in the neighbourhood.

His plan is simply this—in the beginning of May, he makes the bed of pig manure, about three feet high, and four feet square, and fills one of his raisin boxes with fine earth, in which he sows the seed, and inserts the box in the middle of the bed. He then

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places a hand-light over the box, which is twenty-one inches long, ten inches broad, and six inches deep. When the plants come up, he leaves four of the best in the box. These plants make but short shoots, but produce early and abundantly. This, I suppose, is owing to the roots being confined in the box, similar to the Chinese miniature fruit trees.

Perhaps the insertion of this in your next *Midland Florist*, may induce others to try similar experiments.

A FEW REMARKS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF FLORICULTURE.

BY ALPHA.

NEVER since the flower garden first attracted the attention and excited the admiration of man, have its various departments been so generally attended to, or pursued with the same enthusiasm as at the present time.

Whether this has been caused by the establishment of horticultural societies in different parts of the country, or by the sympathy which our best feelings have with the operations of nature, I will not pretend to say; but one thing is certain, viz. that it tends to produce habits of industry and economy, and, in many instances, these have become the substitutes for intemperance and irregularity. If its general tendency be to civilize and humanize, its collateral effects will, in all probability, be of a similar character; for closely connected with our pleasure is our pride, and whenever we perceive in our neighbour a more successful course pursued than our own, we are secretly ashamed, and reproach ourselves with a certain amount of neglect. This tacit reproach, with most men, will have a beneficial effect, by stimulating them to acts of industry and attention. Private competitions, no doubt, first sug-

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gested the idea of exhibitions as a means of settling jealousy, stimulating the efforts of men, and improving horticultural productions generally. It required no great penetration to divine the effect which these public exhibitions would have. Besides showing the results of their several modes of treatment of particular flowers and plants, they became occasions of agreeable and instructive recreation, and pointed out the way to future occasions of a similar and more extended character. What effect these exhibitions, from time to time, have produced, is sufficiently seen in the astonishing change which has taken place in the size, flavour, beauty, and form of every species of horticultural produce; and in the form, character, and properties of flowers generally, and of what are termed florist flowers especially.

However satisfied any one may be with the age in which he lives, and with the little he may have contributed to improve upon the preceding one, there are few, I presume, so narrow-minded as to assert that we have arrived at a point beyond which it will be vain to attempt to pass.

The important improvements which have taken place, have induced our florists to lay down imaginary standards, beyond which it is said nature shall not pass. These standards are of the utmost importance, not only as guides to the inexperienced, but as calculated to produce uniformity of sentiment as to merit and value.

The general principles of these standards have been so thoroughly canvassed, and so universally admitted, that it would imply a want of judgment or taste, or both, to attempt to interfere with them.

Another important effect resulting from these standards, is that they have pointed out to all a something to be aimed at; and while every year introduces us nearer to it, no one has any right to consider it unattainable. In the auricula, ranunculus, and dahlia, the standards of perfection have been nearly, if not entirely, approached; whilst in the

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pink, carnation, picotee, and tulip, where form and something more are required, we are assured that we have not come so near the climax as in the others.

This slow but gradual approach towards perfection, is a sufficient stimulus to men already predisposed to make every exertion to continue these efforts, in the hope that, one day or other, they will most assuredly arrive at the climax—the polar star of all their hopes and imaginings.

Among the many who strive, few make any considerable advances; simply because they allow their zeal to mislead their discretion. They collect seed from faulty parents, and therefore the odds are, that the seedlings from such will retain some, if not all, the imperfections of the originals. Those who have made the trial need not to be advised; but to such as are young and aspiring, a word of admonition is valuable. Save seed from the best things that you grow; such as have good form, brilliant colours, and die well. If it be the tulip, in addition to the other properties, it must or ought to have purity in the ground colour, base, and stamens. These few remarks, if attended to, will be of service, whatever variety of flower you may wish particularly to propagate. Emmerson, an old and experienced florist, in his day, was particularly careful in the varieties which he seeded; and published as sensible a treatise on the auricula as ever appeared before or since. It is well worth a careful perusal.

Others have endeavoured, from time to time, to enlighten the world with their views and opinions; but, perhaps, to no man is the spread of floriculture so much indebted as to Mr. Glenny. His own opinions, whether correct or not, were freely given. The pages of the *Gazette* were open to the contributions of all. Free and fair discussion, while characterized by propriety and usefulness, was always admitted. All just complaints were heard, abuses exposed, and the ignorant advised. His directions to cultivators, to judges, to societies, &c. were

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numerous and of a practical nature, and therefore valuable.

Notwithstanding the encouragement which florist flowers generally are receiving, it is surprizing and a matter of regret, that the auricula, the most beautiful and most delightful of all the spring flowers, should be comparatively neglected; for even in Lancashire, where it has been so long and so successfully cultivated, they cannot, at the present time, raise more than one or two exhibitions worth the name of shows; and this, I apprehend, is not so much from the want of growers or plants, as from the want of patronage from the wealthy, suitable and popular places of rendezvous (such as horticultural and botanical exhibitions), and the indifference which these societies show towards this beautiful class of spring flowers. The number of shows for the auricula, all over the country, is comparatively insignificant. Look back ten or fifteen years, and you will observe that in every town in the kingdom almost, where a floral society was established, their first exhibition was specially for the display of the auricula. Why all this change? Partly for the reasons given, and partly because horticultural societies have become botanical, and thus the wealthy, who used to be considered the patrons of florists, have been separated from them by circumstances over which the cottager, the general cultivator of the auricula, has no control. The same observations apply to floriculture generally, but not to so ruinous an extent. The tulip enlists amongst her admirers the wealthy, the intelligent, and the influential, and is therefore less dependant upon the aid of botanical societies. The cultivation of this truly splendid flower has made rapid strides of late years; and though the passion for it may not be greater than it was fifty years ago, yet its progress and improvement are almost incredible. We used to receive considerable supplies of this bulb, every year, from Holland; but now their varieties are so much excelled by British-raised flowers, that with

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the exception of a very few, the Dutch florists are almost forsaken.

I have little doubt that in a few years, the tulip will be more generally cultivated amongst the wealthy than even it is at the present time, and its properties and value more extensively and better known; that decisions from incorrect judging will only be heard of, not seen; and that open meetings will characterize every society in the kingdom.

The pink and the ranunculus have each of them their admirers, but it is to the growers exclusively that we are indebted for any improvements in them; for, notwithstanding their acknowledged beauty, they receive no encouragement from botanical societies. The carnation and picotee have come in for their share of neglect; and are less esteemed at these *friendly* botanical shows than a cabbage, a lettuce, or even a potato. So much for taste, and so great are our obligations to these friendly societies.

The dahlia has thus far been more fortunate than most of the gems of Flora's garland; and perhaps this may arise partly from its being the last *rose of summer*. When we are just on the point of losing anything, 'tis then we most appreciate. But even the cultivators of this delightful and comparatively new flower are obliged to have recourse to private shows, in order to compare the results of their different modes of treatment, and ascertain the relative values of their respective stocks. How long this state of things will continue, rests with the growers themselves. The public (and in this I speak in contradistinction to public bodies or societies), need only be informed, and a more cordial and friendly support will be received from that source, than from the selfsatisfied and very circumscribed views of the directors, councilmen, and officials of botanical and horticultural societies, who, instead of being the patrons and friends of floriculture, have in every instance proved themselves its greatest enemies.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

DICKSON'S PRINCESS ROYAL GOOSEBERRY.—This is a Scotch variety, in the way of Woodward's Whitesmith, but a much handsomer fruit, and one of the earliest and best cropping white berries in cultivation.

FRY'S SEEDLING PEAR.—This last season, we had a young tree of this most excellent variety, which bore a few fruit, and on application for its history, we received the following information, which was kindly furnished by the reverend gentleman who introduced it to this part of the country:—"Fry's Seedling Pear has been so much approved of this season, that I send you a few particulars concerning it. It was raised close to my house, at Tockington, near Bristol, by Mr. Fry, a most successful horticulturist; and to show how strongly the new varieties partake at times of the character and qualities of the parents, I may mention, that without any knowledge of the pedigree of this tree, I remarked to him, one day, that I thought its flavour combined that of the York Bergamot and the Swan's Egg, on which he assured me, with great apparent pleasure and surprise, that the seed was taken from a fruit borne by a York Bergamot, which grew close under a tall Swan's Egg, in a garden he then occupied. In point of character and free bearing, this seedling resembles the latter parent very closely, and the fruit also, in point of its season and peculiar flavour, which preponderates over that of its other parent." To the above we may add, that our fruit, the latter end of

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November, was most excellent, fully bearing out the above description. The tree is hardy, of handsome growth, and very productive.

THE WALBURTON ADMIRABLE PEACH.—As I promised, I now beg to give you a short account of the above peach, the best late melting variety extant. In 1843, we sold a tree to a gentleman at Lancing, near Worthing, Sussex. The second year after planting, it bore about six fine fruit, and it has continued to bear every season; and last season, the gentleman informed me, in October, that he had gathered from the same tree more than eight dozen of the finest fruit possible. The colour next the sun is of reddish yellow, beautifully streaked with dark rich red; and the part from the sun almost a transparent white. Its extrinsic excellence as a late melting peach of first-rate quality, a very hardy variety, an abundant bearer, and the largest dessert fruit, render it truly valuable. Lancing is somewhat famous for fine fruit, and the Walburton Peach is now beginning to be grown, in preference to any other; and all the best sorts are known there.—H. COBBETT, *Horsell, near Woking.*

TREES AND SHRUBS.

THE WEEPING AMERICAN WILLOW.—A plant of low growth, with thin flexile branches, and rosemary-like leaves. Budded on some of the strong-growing kinds, this makes a most beautiful pendulous tree, and is worthy of extensive cultivation.

ZIZYPHUS SPINA CHRISTI. *(Christ's Thorn.)*—A singularly pretty small tree, the branches covered with sharp thorns; interesting also from the traditionary character attached to it, and which is implied by its specific name, that the Saviour's crown of thorns was made from this plant.

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HERBACEOUS PERENNIAL PLANTS.

PENTSTEMON CLOUSII.—Bright scarlet, with distinct white thorax.

The following new phloxes have lately been introduced from the Continent:—

P. General Cavaignac.—White, beautifully margined with pink.
P. Triomphe de Louvain.—White, margined with purplish rose, with a red centre.
P. Mont Blanc.—A very beautiful white.
P. General Lamoricere.—A singular blush lilac, with slate-coloured eye.

GREENHOUSE AND HALF HARDY PLANTS.

PASSIFLORA AMIABILIS.—This very handsome passion flower was sent from Liege, to the Royal Kew Gardens, in 1847. The flower, when expanded, shows its beautiful red petals to great advantage; the centre, composed of anthers, filaments, &c. being white, the contrast is very striking.

ACHIMENES.—Some beautiful varieties of these ornamental and profuse-flowering plants have been lately added to our collections. Amongst them, are

A. Patens Major.—The flowers are dark velvetty plum colour.
A. Ghiesbrechtii.—A queer name, truly. However, the plant is most beautiful in habit, the flowers scarlet, and what is better still, very distinct from any other variety.

VERBENAS.

Baucis.—Dark violet amaranth.
Duval.—Marone, with white eye.
Napier.—Beautiful deep scarlet, white centre.
Lady Russell.—White, with deep rose-coloured eye.
Eppsii.—A magnificent-trussing variety, brilliant scarlet, of excellent habit for bedding out.

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VEGETABLES.

CELERY.—Mr. Seymour is famous for his celery, and has lately brought forward another white variety, saved with much care. It is styled "The Champion," and well merits its designation, being first-rate.

EARLY BLUE SURPRISE PEA.—A surprising sort, combining precocity with excellence. Its flavour is as good as the best marrows, and it has the advantage of being as early as the Warwick.

BURBIDGE'S ECLIPSE PEA.—Where pea-prickings, or sticks, are scarce, dwarf peas are desirable. This is about eighteen inches high, rarely exceeding two feet, and is a fine large blue marrow.

A new savoy has been introduced from Germany, hardy enough to bear the most rigorous winters. It is styled "Savoy Marcellin," and is stated to be of very excellent flavour; other varieties being objectionable for their strong taste.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTIVATION OF HYACINTHS, FOR EXHIBITION.

The following is an excellent method of cultivating hyacinths for showing.

In the first place it is important that a proper selection be made in the choice of bulbs, which ought to indicate great strength; for as the best sorts sometimes make poor flowers, such only should be chosen as show the greatest substance. The soil which I make use of consists of good free loam, and well-rotted cow dung, with a small portion of sand; yet I would remark, that this is not of great import-

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ance, as the matter to be developed is the secretion of the previous season, and therefore only requires to be placed in favourable circumstances, to forward its proper development.

The bulbs being planted in thirty-twos (proper hyacinth pots being the same width as those, although much deeper), I place them in a cold pit or frame, with a dry flooring, and cover the whole over with dry sawdust, at least six inches deep, above the pots. This material being kept perfectly dry, the bulbs are secure from frost, and likewise from premature excitement. When spring arrives, and the leaves begin to push, I raise the pots above the sawdust, to prevent that blanched appearance which this tribe often presents when brought from the old tan-heap, which is but too often their abode until wanted for forcing. As soon as the plants begin to grow, I expose them as much as possible, merely protecting them from frost and rain.

When nearly in flower, I remove them to a shaded place, and fix over them hand-lights, elevated upon inverted flower pots under the corners, for the two-fold purpose of making room for their tops and giving them all the air possible. When the day is fine and calm, remove the top of the light entirely. In such a situation, they will develope themselves in their greatest perfection, and may be preserved in full beauty for double the time which they would be if exposed to the sun.

Gardener's Chronicle.

CULTIVATION OF SUMMER ROSES, IN POTS.

For this purpose, a selection of the finest double varieties alone is eligible. Plants worked on neat stems, not more than four inches high, and with fibrous compact roots, so that they will admit of being placed in the centre of the pot, should be

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potted late in October, or early in November, in twenty-four-sized, or eight-inch pots, in a compost of loam and rotten manure, or loam and rotten leaf-mould, and manure, in equal quantities. If, to a bushel of this compost, half a peck of pounded charcoal is added, it will be improved. After potting, they should be placed on slates, and then plunged in sawdust, or old tan, so that the surface of the mould in the pots is covered about two inches in depth with the material used for plunging. A sunny exposed situation is better than under a wall, for when placed near a wall, the branches always incline from it, so that the plant, in lieu of being round and compact, as it ought to be, becomes one-sided. In the following February, they may be pruned in closely, *i.e.* to within two or three buds of the base of each shoot, and remain plunged during the summer. Additional vigour may be given by removing the sawdust or tan from the surface of the pots, in March, and substituting rotten manure. During the summer, all suckers must be carefully removed; and in June, July, and August, all luxuriant shoots shortened, by pinching off their ends; and superfluous shoots nipped in the bud, that each plant may be made to form a neat compact bush, not too much crowded with shoots. If this is properly attended to, they will scarcely require pruning the following spring, but only a few shoots thinning out, *i.e.* entirely removing. These plants will require abundance of water in dry hot weather, in summer; and once a week, in June and July, they should be watered with guano water. One pound of guano to twelve gallons of water will be of sufficient strength. If not placed on slates, the pots must be removed once a fortnight, to prevent the roots entering the soil underneath, which would give them much additional vigour, but the check they would receive when removed would be very injurious; this must, therefore, be carefully guarded against. The above treatment is also applicable to moss and Provence roses, on their own roots, which, when

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required for forcing, may at once be removed from the plunging bed, after having remained there one summer, to the forcing house. Those required for exhibition only, may also remain there till near the blooming season; when, if it is wished to retard them, they may be placed under a north wall; if to accelerate, they may be removed to the greenhouse, or to any pit or frame under glass.

Gardener's Chronicle.

THE VEGETABLE MARROW A SUBSITUTE FOR POTATOES.

I HAVE been trying various experiments this autumn, with ripe vegetable marrows, and I find they contain a rich sugary and farinaceous matter. To my taste, they are fine; and by those gentlemen to whom I have sent them, they were very much approved of, when cooked in the following manner:—Cut the marrows into manageable lengths, take out the pith and seeds, boil them in plenty of water and salt, and when well boiled, scrape out all the marrow, and put it between two dishes, and squeeze out all the water; then give it a little salt, pepper, butter, and milk, and mash it well; it is then fit for a queen, let alone a poor person.

Nothing can be better for fattening pigs. We will suppose that early potatoes are grown (to grow late ones any longer is a waste of land), the early sorts having been taken great care of during the winter, and treated as I have previously recommended. The seeds of the marrows may be sown about the 1st of May, in the open ground, in any warm corner. When transplanting time comes, the early potatoes will not be near ripe, but proceed thus:—Lift a root of potatoes every five or six feet in the row, leaving six or eight rows of potatoes, and then another row of marrows, and so on. I find

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that with moderately rich land, I can grow twenty tons to the acre easily. When ripe, they may be stowed away anywhere, and boiled along with other food for pigs. All food for pigs ought to be boiled. Wherever we find the cottagers using this method, there they always have the best pigs, and fit for market or home consumption in the least time. The cottager will find room to grow the marrows in all the ways he can think of, and where other things will not grow,—over walls, up pales or trellises, up poles, or over his cottage. The trouble of training would not be much, and it would occupy his time in the evening. Landlords and farmers, perhaps, would be induced to give those cottagers a prize, in the shape of a load or two of dung, who grew the largest and finest crops. There is no mistake about the marrows being first-rate food for pigs.

Gardener's Journal.

ON BREAKING BREEDER TULIPS.

BY THE EDITOR.

EVERY tulip grower is aware of the importance of getting a good strain of any given variety; for twenty breeders may come into colour, yet not one of that number shall be what is termed *a decided good break.*

We are often asked, what is the best method of breaking breeder tulips? or, in other words, what means can be adopted to induce the flower to assume those variegated tints so highly prized by connoisseurs—*a clear feather, or perfect flame?*

The general supposition is, that by frequently changing the soil, situation, &c. this desideratum may be attained. We agree that to a certain extent the bulb may be so far affected that occasional *breaks* may result from adopting this plan. Still we think it

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may be accomplished in a more certain and satisfactory manner.

Bulbs in a breeder state throw up stronger and bolder flowers than when *in colour*; the stems often decreasing in height several inches, assuming a sort of constitutional weakness (if we may so term it) when they become variegated. In fact, the broken flower is much less robust than its breeder. If, then, a deficiency of vigour will induce a bulb to put forth a feathered or flamed flower, instead of a plain or self-coloured one, by what means can this end be attained?

We imagine that taxing the resources of the bulb, weakening its energies, and reducing its strength, will have the desired effect; and to support our opinion, we will adduce a case or two in point. Many years ago, when we thought less of cause and effect than we do now, we were much struck with a singular occurrence, bearing on these ideas. We planted a large bed of breeder tulips; during their period of bloom they were much frequented by bees, which issued from the cups of the flowers covered with farina, as black as sweeps. The impregnation of the flowers was completed; they formed perfect heads of seed, which were allowed to remain on till they were thoroughly ripe. The ensuing season, the bulbs were planted as usual, and when the flowers expanded, we were surprised to find that the whole collection, amounting to some hundreds, were, with very few exceptions, in a broken or variegated state.

As it is usual to break off the capsules, in order to strengthen the bulb, may we not infer, that if the resources of the bulb are drawn upon to ripen a pod of seed, that it is consequently weakened, and predisposed to alter its character, and assume those beautiful and varied markings so much desired by the amateur?

On another occasion, a friend of ours planted some seedling breeders, the bulbs being in a very diseased and cankered state; the succeeding year he

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had a general break, and certainly there were some splendid flowers amongst them.

Another old experimentalist informs us, that many of his breeder tulips break into colour by allowing the bulbs to be exposed to all weathers, from the time of taking up to the period of replanting.

Now, as variegation in the leaves of plants may often be traced to weakness or disease, may not the same effect arise from the same cause, in the case of the tulip? Here we have bulbs weakened by ripening seed; others in an unhealthy state when planted; whilst some were constantly acted on by rain, frost, sun, and wind; and in each instance attended with the same results.

We trust our floricultural friends will act on these hints, as, from repeated successful experiments we entertain no doubt of their success.

Gardener's Chronicle.

At the Caledonian Horticultural Society's winter general meeting, held December 7, 1848, amongst many articles of great interest exhibited, were the following:—A monster gourd, weighing one hundred and thirty pounds. Four specimens of the Winter Duchess de Berri Pear, weighing eight pounds, the heaviest being two pounds and a half. These, however, were not of British growth, having been sent to England by M. Sangelier, of Havre, France.

RETROSPECTIVE CRITICISM.

HAVING been granted the use of your valuable pages, may I again infringe on your good nature, and without trespass upon the patience of your readers? my object being to reply to "An Old Carnation Grower," who, in last month's *Cabinet*, pp. 63-4, somewhat

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angrily, and in a tone extremely *old-fashioned*, handles my suggestions offered to the committee of the Midland Horticultural Society, that they adopt showing carnation and picotee blooms *on* cards, which could in no way be a drawback to floriculture, but on the contrary, likely to add to the comforts and numbers of its votaries. Our old acquaintance, if we mistake not, uses such terms as "lazy," "indolence," against the proposition, and tells us that hundreds of *old* florists are still ready to follow up the custom. I grant him there may be hundreds of *old* florists, but I believe there are thousands of *young* florists, to his hundreds (or in that proportion, if we are getting too deeply into numbers), who are on the general march of improvement, ready and desirous of modernizing floriculture, as well as every other science throughout our land; and on the score of adding to our numbers and importance at the great metropolitan and provincial meetings, did I enter the literary field, however humbly, to make known not only my own, but the sentiments of the many devoted to and interested in our cause, and am yet anything but convinced by the arguments of even so respected an author as before quoted, that showing pinks, picotees, and carnations *on* cards, can in any degree detract from the generally recognized principles of floriculture. Of form there can *now* be no two opinions. Glenny has so elaborately and *so often* driven that into our minds (unless very dull), we dare not gainsay it. He also writes, and very *lately too*, against the use of cards; but *that* fashion is now out of date; whereas the standard of form, based on true and scientific principles, will never vary; and let the author of a thousand and one treatises *a la Eugene Sue*, rest content with the many triumphs achieved, yet not forget that fashion will have its day, even though it prove ridiculous; and giving "An *Old* Carnation Grower" every praise for upholding ancient customs, I must yet remind him, they are fast giving way; and without pretending to

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be of that class denominated "seers," have faith enough to predict, that showing blooms of pinks, picotees, and carnations, on cards, will be the general, if not the only rule, and that the tone of argument used by our friend as of yore, is also as rapidly on the decline as are the many wicked ways of ancient floriculture.

I have "food in store, and abundance thereof," that "my plan, dictated" in your ably conducted monthly, "will not destroy the effect of all these beautiful points, and at once reduce a clean fresh bloom, perfect in its way, to the level of a loose bundle of petals, held together with a card, and with the additional disadvantage that the bad flower would be the largest;" but more anon.

J. EDWARDS.

In perusing the February number of the *Midland Florist*, I find some observations on Slater's Gladiator, at the Bury show. As the flower was one of my productions, I have much pleasure in stating, the *bloom* possessed a *good white*; also *four* out of five blooms from one plant. This was satisfaction to me; but knowing the high colouring of the variety, I took my usual precautions, which always realize my expectations, viz. in potting any high-coloured bizarre, flake, or picotee, which is subject to blur (as with Burroughs's President, which is a splendid sort, when well bloomed), I invariably mix a larger proportion of coarse white silvery sand, which causes the soil to be more porous, and not so retentive of wet, which, in my opinion, is highly injurious to the well-blooming of any high-coloured variety. As the time of planting these favourites is now at hand, some of your numerous readers may probably try the effects of this plan, and give the results at some future time. Just by the way, I might be allowed to refer to some remarks of the highest authority of the present day, in which he states having seen

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Gladiator in superlative excellence. Surely we ought not to repine, and be *continually throwing cold water on the wheel*, with such words as these before us. I hope these few remarks will be taken as they are given, with perfect good feeling.

J. CHEETHAM.

Rochdale.

Part III.

REVIEW.

PAXTON'S MAGAZINE OF GARDENING AND BOTANY. *London: Orr & Co.*

WE are heartily glad to find that the utility and excellence of this popular work are likely to be much increased; and if we may judge from the number now before us, we have no doubt that a very much increased circulation will be the result. It is got up in excellent style. The embellishments are *Dipladenia nobelis*, a splendid stove climber; and *Browallia Jamesonii*, a very beautiful hardy greenhouse plant, somewhat like a myrtle in habit. It bears an immense quantity of bright orange blossoms, and is of very easy cultivation. Also *Nemophilla maculata*, a very pretty annual. It has the habit of the old favourite, Nemophilla insignis. The flowers are larger, and the ground colour white, with a large blue blotch on the tip of each of its five petals. The articles are of the highest interest, comprising, in part, Notes on the History and Proper Treatment of the Californian Zanschneria; Hybridization, by Mr. D. Beaton; Cultivation of the Pineapple, without Pots, by Dr. Fleming; British Oaks, by Mr. C. M'Intosh; and on Ornamental Planting, by Mr. Kemp.

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QUERIES.

A quondam reader of the *Gazette* would be glad if Mr. Glenny would state distinctly whether he considers the *third* or the *half* of a hollow ball the better form for a tulip. It is desirable, in the present state of floriculture, that opinions defining the standards of form should be plainly expressed, in order to prevent differences. I will suppose three umpires appointed to judge tulips; one an advocate for the half-sphere, a second for the third of a sphere, and the other for an intermediate size. How are these three to agree, supposing the properties in other respects equal? And how is uniformity of sentiment to be drawn from a fluctuating standard? I hope Mr. G. will see the necessity of setting this question at rest, by stating *that* which he believes to be *the best*.

AN EXHIBITER.

In endeavouring to produce larger fruit of the currant, which you have so frequently advised, would it not be possible to cross the red, black, or white currant with the gooseberry, they both belonging to the genus Ribes, and being, therefore, very nearly related? If hybridization would take place, would it not be possible, by saving the largest seedlings, and crossing them with the largest gooseberries, and again sowing the seed, to get, in the course of time, bunches of currants as large as small grapes? I should be glad of your opinion on this matter, in an early number. EBORENSIS.

I have received the York schedule of prizes, and find that there is an alteration in it from the one put out last year, inasmuch as no mention is made of the *red class of tulips*. There are many beautiful flowers of this description, and I think, as the York ought to be, and I hope will be, a *model show*, that they should have taken the initiative in this matter, and given prizes for this class. In your opinion, is a red flower worth as much as a dark one? and do you not think these flowers, other properties being equal, as worthy of a prize as their darker rivals? AN OLD FLORIST.

[Undoubtedly we consider that they are worth quite as much; though through a series of years, in which we have acted as judge, we have always found *a prejudice* in favour of the darker feather or flame, other points being alike. Colour is generally a matter of fancy. Other points are regulated by certain well-defined rules, which cannot be set aside, and by which the greatest novice may know whether a flower be judged properly or not. We are sure there will be many red flowers at York, and they would make a most interesting class.]

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The names of a few of the best scarlet geraniums, for bedding out, in the coming spring months, will oblige yours, A. M.

Are cherries a profitable fruit? Which are the best sorts, and what description of land suits them best? An early answer will be esteemed. JAMES JOHNSON.

I have a garden in front of my house, with a small grass plot. Could you furnish me with a design for flower beds, with the charge you make, at the same time stating the names of the plants most proper to make the greatest show during the summer and autumn months? MARY.

[We beg to inform our correspondent, if she will send us the dimensions of her piece of grass, we will furnish her with the desired information; at the same time, if it is possible, we will give a few plans in the pages of the *Midland Florist*, which we hope may be of service to our readers.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SILK WORMS.—A CONNAUGHT SUBSCRIBER.—There is some doubt whether the rearing of silk worms in the West of Ireland would be attended with success. The best kind of mulberry is the Morus multicaulis. This was introduced from the Philippine Islands, in 1821. The trees would, no doubt, thrive, and abundance of silk might be obtained, but I believe it has been proved that the climate of Ireland is too moist for its successful cultivation. Nevertheless, I think experiments on a small scale would be highly praiseworthy. The Morus multicaulis may be obtained of most large nurserymen. Perhaps you grow the variety. H. S. M.

[We have the Morus multicaulis. It appears very hardy and prolific in shoots and leaves, and has borne fruit on layers attached to the stool or parent stem.]

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR APRIL.

THIS again will, when the soil is in favourable condition, be a busy time for getting in *seeds*, transplanting, &c. We would recommend those who have a frame, to sow *tomato seed*, in pots. These, when planted out under a south wall, or paling,

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produce abundant crops, which may either be pickled, or preserved with sugar, or made into sauce, and are also an excellent addition to stews, &c. *Vegetable marrows* are also good things. These should be sown on a little heat. Mr. Cuthill, of Camberwell, cultivates them for various purposes, and strongly recommends them as highly nutritious and productive.

Sow a small quantity of *celery*, in a favourable situation. Cole's Dwarf Red, Seymour's Champion and Superb, are fine sorts. This sowing will be for the chief crop.

In *winter greens*, the *Jerusalem Kale*, *Marcellin Savoy*, the *variegated Broccoli*, *Curled Kale*, *Drumhead Savoy*, *Cauliflower Broccoli*, but above all, *Brussels Sprouts*, may be sown. It is a bad plan to sow the seed on poor ground; it should be in good heart, and well worked. Of *Brussels Sprouts*, always obtain imported seed, if possible.

The main crop of *potatoes* ought not to be longer delayed planting. Above all *potatoes* that we have ever yet met with, for extensive cultivation, we give Rilot's Flourball the preference. If planted about the size of a walnut, it is an abundant cropper and of first-rate excellence.

Marrow peas will be best to sow now. Recollect that thin sowing is at all times advisable.

Early Dutch or *Six-week Turnip* should be got in. The *Red-topped Stone* is one of the quickest bulbing sorts, with very small top.

Mustard and *cress*, for succession; and *lettuces*, such as Paris Coss, Ady's Coss, Golden Coss, and Drumhead, should be sown. They are all good.

Thin out *parsley*, *spinach*, &c. that are up, and sow *onions*. Seed is so cheap this season that expense will not be in the way of every cottager having abundance of this excellent vegetable. The Brown and White Globe are handsome sorts, and keep well; Brown Spanish and Strasburg are also good; Blood Red is strong, does not get so large as the preceding sorts, but keeps remarkably well; White Spanish is the mildest, and attains a large size. Burnt soil, with plenty of well-rotted manure, should be dug into the beds. Drill the seed, in preference to broadcasting it.

Carrots, *parsnips*, *beans*, &c. should be got in without delay; in fact, vigilance must now be the order of the day, in every department of the kitchen garden.

In *Florists' Flowers* generally and the *Flower Garden*, *scabiouses*, *Canterbury bells*, *phloxes*, *delphineums*, &c. should immediately be planted, and where increase is desired the roots may be divided. All *perennial herbaceous plants* must be regulated. Some of them, if they have stood several years in one place, will have grown too large: in digging the borders, reduce their size, and add fresh vegetable or sandy soil. Most *perennials*

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flower earlier and more profusely on light soil than on that which is stiff.

Ranunculuses.—Simply weed the beds, and stir the soil as little as possible between the rows. These plants like a close rich soil. We well recollect injuring a most promising bed, by injudiciously stirring the soil between the plants.

Tulips are generally looking well, though some few reports reach us, of collections suffering much from canker and decay. All diseased parts should be immediately removed, as soon as observed. Cover the beds with hoops or frame-work, and put some light netting or other material sufficiently high to protect the plants from hail. We would advise all who aspire to one of the York cups, to be particular on this point. Stir the soil between the plants, and keep the bed free from weeds.

Pansies.—These are now very much grown in pots; therefore beds may still be made up. The compost cannot well be too rich for them.

Dahlias.—Work the roots in heat, and strike the cuttings, if a large stock is required.

Auriculas.—Cover the frames well every night. A check would prevent the thicker-petalled sorts from expanding.

Polyanthuses, in pots, should be treated in a similar manner.

Plant *carnations* and *picotees* in the pots for blooming; drain well, covering the potsherds with moss, previous to filling with soil.

Annuals should be sown in the open border.

Tender annuals should have plenty of air. *Balsams*, &c. if drawn up weakly, will not make fine plants. The new *balsam*, Impatiens glanduligera, will make a splendid plant for summer decoration, if hardened, and then planted in the border.

Cuttings of *hydrangeas*, struck in heat, and cultivated as recommended in this month's number, will make excellent plants for pots.

Propagate *chrysanthemums*. Sow *seed* of the *auricula*, *dahlia*, *calceolaria*, *pansy*, &c.

In the *Fruit Garden*, look after the American blight on *fruit trees*, and destroy it with a hard brush. Should the clays of *grafted plants* be cracked, fill up the cracks, or the success of the scion will be endangered.

The *buds of grafts*, especially *plums*, are apt to be eaten in the night by a small beetle. Dust them with sulphur and common Scotch snuff, after rain.

Look over *fruit trees*, and disbud, that is, rub off those buds which are likely to produce shoots that will be detrimental to the tree.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

POTATOES AND ARTICHOKES.

BY E. J. LANCE.

At this time it is usual to plant the early sorts of potatoes. Planting should be attended to as soon as the tubers begin to vegetate, for the shoots, when rubbed off, are a great weakener of the power of the tubers; therefore, the sets ought to be in the ground, that the vegetation may not be in any measure exhausted. The growers of this root-crop must not take up the position that the tuber is worn out, or so degenerated as not to be cultivated in this country again with success. Such notions have no data. The wheat crop was affected for several years in succession, about forty years ago, by the fungal infection of red rust (Uredo rubigo). The attack on the potato haulm is, at first, but an attack on the foliage of the plant—a fungal infection, which extracts the juices of the plant, and occasions a stoppage of the growth, and chemical decomposition of the fruit—the "apples of the earth" having lost their lungs.

As a substitute for the potato, the best of all roots is the Jerusalem artichoke (Helianthus tuberosus). This is an unjustly neglected tuber amongst the farmer's crops. It is true, there is a difficulty in getting the land clear of them, but this difficulty is not insurmountable; a following crop might be potatoes, when a few artichokes amongst them would not be an objection. This again might be followed by turnips, or by beans, when a few of the tubers would not be so great an objection to the crop, particularly where a greater attention to green crops is needed.

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If the growth of corn do not pay the farmer, then ought he to rear and fatten stock, and he would thereby much enrich his land.

The artichoke is cultivated with great success on many parts of the Continent. Ten tons or four hundred bushels per English acre is a common produce. All cattle will eat them as readily as they will eat the potato. Boussinghault has advocated this crop as a means of reclaiming waste lands. By the breadth of the leaves, a great portion of its bulk is made up of the carbon and nitrogen of the atmosphere, and by their decomposition, the soil is increased. It is commonly cultivated in the poor light lands of the Grand Duchy of Baden, and in various parts of Alsace. Like most other crops, where there is most vegetable food, there the tubers will grow the best. I have, this last year, had them grown ten feet high, terminating with three or five small blossoms at the top, but they never ripen seed in this country. By the analysis of this plant, it would appear that it detracts from the soil a large portion of silicate of potash and lime, therefore its decomposition ought to be returned to the land, for the purpose of keeping up its fertility.

Blackwater, March.

THE MOST PROPER DRAINAGE FOR FLOWER POTS.

BY ZERO.

Among the various and conflicting ideas that are now-a-days afloat in the world, every one seems to have an opinion, and of course, his opinion, in his own eyes at least, is the right one; and I, claiming (as the poet says of the atoms of dust in the sun's rays) my right in the common cause to dance among the rest, wish to propose a *query*—whether the crocks, as they are termed, in the bottom of flower pots, for the purpose of drainage, are of any real

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utility, more than filling up and making useless one-third part of the space allowed for the root of the plant? If I plant a flower in the soil, and let it grow during the summer months, I find, on taking it up, that the roots have spread far and wide beyond the limits of a pot; consequently I suppose, that flower being confined to the small space in a pot, ought, in fairness, to have all the advantage that can be allowed it in that small space, without filling up one-third of the room which the root ought to occupy with stone or brick rubbish, as if to imitate nature in this miniature garden pot. The advocates of crocks may contend that it effectually drains away all the water that would otherwise collect, and sour the soil, and ultimately rot the root; but cannot some substitute be used, that would answer the double purpose of draining the pot effectually and adding nourishment at the same time to the roots? If such a substitute can be found, would it not only benefit the flower, but also make the trouble of potting less?

A great deal has been written about draining flower pots with crocks, and doubtless by experienced men, and from well-matured consideration, and my only intention in raising the query is to provoke the inquiry, whether the system is founded in reason, and is good in practice, or whether some other scheme may not be introduced, to answer the purpose better, which is the end of all improvement. I have found the crocks in some measure unnecessary and troublesome. Last year, I purchased some carnation layers, which were sent to me in pots, and when I had to plant them out in spring, found the pots nearly half full of broken brick, so that the fibres not having more than an inch and a half of soil, the roots were entangled amongst the rubbish, and took a good deal of cleaning, before they were fit to be planted. I then thought that if anything had been put at the bottom of these pots that might have been transmitted to the soil, without disturbing the roots, it would have been less trouble to me and less damage to the plants, for many of the fibres were

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torn off the roots. Now I do not wish to palm my opinion upon you as infallible, but I have, since then, put at the bottom of my pots a piece of rotten wood, in a state of decay something like a sponge, which fully answers the purpose of draining, and also assists the plant in its growth, for as the fibres reach down to the wood, they enter into all the recesses of the decaying matter, and extract nourishment from it; and another advantage is, that when you repot, or turn out, you have not to rake out from the roots of the plant a quantity of broken stones. I fancy the soil might be made light enough for the water to pass down five inches as well as three, if it were skilfully managed, and the whole contents of the pot be devoted to the nourishment of the plant.

If this meet with your approbation, and you think it worth the perusal of your numerous readers, and any improvement may thereby be promoted, my object is attained.

"VIALL'S PATENT FLOWER PROTECTOR."

I HAVE extorted many a smile from my neighbours, on exhibiting to them what I term "Viall's Patent Flower Protector;" and as it probably may lead to some improvement on "the patent," if you can spare room in your valuable little compendium, I venture to trouble you with the particulars of it.

My idea was, and still is, to avoid purchasing those unsightly "Lilliputian handlights" which I have seen used for blooming the carnation and picotee; and although I am informed the London growers use a small hand-glass, with small glass squares in lead frames, I have not seen them, nor do I think I should like them so well as "the patent." Accordingly, I was led to premise, that if the glass-blowers would be so obliging as to make a hole of three-fourths or seven-eighths of an inch diameter, through the knobs of the propagating glasses, they would answer the

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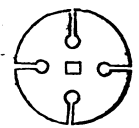

Section of tin plate (c).

purpose admirably. I have now succeeded in accomplishing this object, and intend using them in the ensuing pink and carnation blooming season; and will now give you a rough sketch of the apparatus, and explain it as I proceed.

A, The common carnation stick, three-quarters of an inch square, but having holes through the upper half its length, at intervals of half an inch, for the wire pin, or wooden peg to pass through, to support the glass and tin plate. If the stick is double the substance one-third its length from the bottom, it will be much firmer, and persons having new ones made should adopt this plan.

B, The propagating glass, with the hole through the knob, for the stick (A) to pass through, and resting on a wire pin, or wooden peg, at the desired height. Seven inches and a half in diameter, or what the glass-blowers *call seven inch.*

C, The tin plate, painted drab, or stone colour, seven inches diameter, with a tin socket underneath, and resting on another pin, or peg, and having four round holes perforated at equal distances from each other, and half way between the edge and the socket, with a slit, a quarter of an inch wide, from each of the four holes to the edge of the plate, to allow the stem of each flower to pass through, and fix the bud in the hole.

The sketch is incomplete, as I am not an adept in the art; but it should show the four stems and four buds through the tin plate (C), and one or two secondary buds on each stem, below

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the plate. I intend growing four plants in each pot, when my stock will enable me to do so, and if two buds only are left on each, I hope to be able to get them nearly the size of the standard, viz. two and a half to three inches; and you will observe, this is my object for having the glass and plate so large, as it will allow the four flowers to *expand at the same time*, without touching each other, or the edge of the plate, or the stick in the centre. It has been suggested, that there will not be sufficient air admitted; but this, I think, is a mistake, as there is a quarter of an inch all round the plate, between it and the glass, besides the four slits, and a little opening at the top, the hole in the glass knob being round and the stick square, but, in my opinion, this latter will be best wadded up, to keep out the rain.

I think the above plan will be most beneficial, in cold, or wet, and windy weather, as the blooms will be screened from those vicissitudes; and thus I hope to be able to make our keen air at Northampton approximate more to that of Middlesex; but in clear hot sunny weather an awning will be necessary, unless there is a nice shady part of the garden available to stand the pots in, or else each glass must have a cap of paper or other material, for the most part of the day. Otherwise it may be found desirable to dim one-half or two-thirds of the glass, with white paint, to imitate ground or rough plate glass, and let that part be on the south; you will then be able to see the blooms nearly as well, when you are on the north side of the stage, where I always walk to see mine.

It was my intention, that the glass should rest on the tin plate, but as I had the latter made first, and the glass-blowers generally allow half an inch over the size, I must adopt their width; and it may, perhaps, obviate the difficulty suggested as to the insufficiency of air being admitted.

Messrs. Smith and Son, glass-merchants, of this town, have assisted me very much in my object, by

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procuring the pattern glass, and have so far approved of my plan as to get in a stock of them; as, you will please to observe, they answer the purpose of propagating glasses equally as well, if not better, than the others, by merely inserting a cork in the hole; and by taking the cork out, you can admit air when necessary, without disturbing the glass, which, with many small things, is desirable, as you do not lift them out with the mould adhering to the edge of the glass.

I have no intention to take out a "patent," or even to "register" the invention, so that I shall not be afraid of any person infringing my rights; on the contrary, I have a very great desire to see the opinions of some of your readers, and also your own, on the above plan, and shall be happy to accept of any useful hints towards the perfection of "the patent."

BENJAMIN VIALLS.

Dern-gate, Northampton.

THE PRICES OF FLOWERS.

It has been observed, with more ill-nature than good sense, that this, that, and the other person has been exorbitant in the prices at which he has let out his new flowers; and others, who have been more moderate, have been held up as models, in contradistinction to the impostors by inference, who have demanded so much. Really it is to be wished that men would, before they pretend to denounce or dictate, try to understand both sides of a question, It is as empty a charge as ever was got up; and moreover, were it otherwise, it is one of those subjects over which none but the owner should have any control. A.B. sends out a new pink and a a good one, at three shillings and sixpence per pair; C.D. sends out one, no better, at seven shillings and

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sixpence; and E.F. sends out a third, at fifteen shillings. Now this simple fact gives some grumblers occasion to praise the moderation of A.B., denounce the selfishness of C.D., but to condemn E.F. as a downright impostor. Supposing there were no difference in the value of the three flowers, as to *properties*—and this is supposing a good deal—and moreover, no difference in the stock, is there any law, human or divine, to prevent E.F. from charging exactly what he thinks proper for a pair of a pink that he values, and that his own connections value? The whole thing turns upon E.F.'s notion of the value of fifteen shillings. He would rather have fifteen shillings than a pair of his pinks, until he has lowered his stock to what he means to bloom; but he would rather have a hundred pairs of pinks than a hundred half-guineas, and has made up his mind to act upon it. Who is to question his right to keep them, unless he can make his price? On the other hand, A.B. would rather have three shillings and sixpence than a pair of his pinks, until all he means to sell are gone. If he value his pinks less, or the money more, than E.F. does, we have quite as good a right to denounce him for lowering the value of pinks as we have E.F. for lowering the value of money. But I have said all this for argument's sake alone. One great fact ought to close everybody's mouth, and stop everybody's pen, upon so unprofitable a subject. The same flower that is worth ten pounds the one-year-old root, may be worth only one pound when there are ten; therefore a flower is more or less valuable according to the demand and supply. If I have twenty pairs of a pink that has excellent qualities, and new, I am more liberal to the floral world by selling twenty pairs at fifteen shillings, than I should be by selling the same thing for three shillings and sixpence, when I had one more year's multiplication of the stock. If a man misrepresent a bad flower to be a good one, and obtain a large price on that account, he is a

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swindler, call him by what name you will; but a good flower is not dear at any price a man likes to ask, because nobody will buy it but those who would rather have the flower than the money. I forget the pinks and the persons concerned in the commencing charge brought against somebody, but I remember an allusion was made to Willmer's Louisa or Laura, a pink of much higher class than many that are considered good, and I would rather have given him a guinea for one of his twenty pairs, than I would have given a fourth of the money for the best pink in cultivation, when there is enough stock for the whole country. Everybody who bought the fifteen shilling pink will have stock worth money, and in demand; while others, let out cheaper, are so abundant, that there is no chance of anybody wanting a pair the second year. I think people ought to consider well before they condemn anybody for doing as they like with their own, so long as it can be done without injuring others.

AN OLD PINK FANCIER.

CINERARIAS.

BY J. D.

THE cineraria is one of the greatest ornaments we have at this season of the year. For the greenhouse or conservatory nothing can exceed it, with its beautiful and varied colours, and its bright green foliage. Great improvement has been made, and is still making, in this beautiful class of flowers. Some few years ago, the flowers were small, and the petals narrow, and the habit tall, with various other bad qualities; but now the flowers are large, the petals broad and well shaped, the colours clear and distinct, and the habit dwarf. I think that Mr. Glenny's criterion has nearly been attained, and I think will

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be in almost all florists' flowers. The cineraria, unlike most plants, delights in plenty of water. When growing, the plants should never be allowed to get quite dry; but when at rest, they require but very little, just enough to keep them alive. After the plants have gone out of flower, keep them in a frame till the season comes on for their flowering again. If the plants are two or three years old, part them.

TWELVE DISTINCT AND GOOD VARIETIES.

Gem (Ivery).—Beautiful crimson purple, flower large, petals round and large, good habit, flowers well above the foliage.
Eleanor (Henderson).—White, with rose edge, dark disk, flower large, and fine form.
Newington Beauty (Kendall).—Purplish crimson, with white centre, flower large and good shape.
Duchess of Sutherland (Ivery).—White, edged with lilac, large flower.
Pride of Dorking (Ivery).—Rosy purple, with white centre, compact grower.
Beauty of St. John's Wood (Henderson).—White, tipped with crimson, very free flowering, and a striking variety.
Alboni (Henderson).—Clear white centre, rosy lilac edge, free flowering, dwarf habit, and distinct.
Defiance (Henderson).—Plum colour, good shape, and distinct. The flowers do not come well up out of the foliage.
Maid of Artois (Henderson).—Purplish blue, with a dazzling eye, good shape.
Magnet (Henderson).—White edged with rosy crimson.
Cœlestial (Jackson).—Blue, fine form, very dwarf habit.
Attractor (Holmes).—Crimson self, good shape, rather small.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Astonishing (Laurence).—A bold cupped rose, in the way of Triomphe Royale Second row. 5s.
Jane (Howard).—First-row rose. Dark feather.
Michael Angelo.—Second row byblœmen. Feathered, colour a light marone, attractive in any bed. There are many sent out with the name, of a violet colour, and much like other byblœmens, which this is not. £1 1s.

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Mountain Sylph (Holmes).—Fourth-row rose. Fine clear red feather, and a little flamed, sometimes feather only. £3 3s.

Maid of Kent (Wells).—Third or fourth-row byblœmen. Violet lilac, feather and flame.

Milton (Devonshire kind).—Third-row bizarre. This break is one of the most constant bizarres going. There are many of the name, not bearing a comparison. £1 1s.

Sarah.—Second-row rose. A delicate pencilled short feather. One of Laurence's best. £3 3s.

Selim (Clark).—First-row bizarre. Feather and flame, a well marked thing, in request. £2 2s.

Phosphorus (Laurence).—Third-row bizarre. A singularly coloured variety. 10s.

La Kaine (Laurence).—Second-row bizarre. Highly coloured, deep and bright red markings. 10s.

General Bournonville.—Third-row byblœmen. Effective in any bed. Dark feather and flame. £2.

Byzantium (Laurence).—Second-row byblœmen. Dark feather, distinctly marked, a sweet pretty thing. *(So it ought to be.)* £10 10s.

Parmeyiano (Rutley).—Second-row byblœmen. A beautiful violet purple, the white most pure. It has a fault—the petals have a notch on each side, near the summit; nevertheless, I have, on one or two occasions, seen it without this defect. £2 2s.

Grand Monarque.—Third-row byblœmen. A very pretty feather and flame. £1 1s.

Angelica Kauffmann (Laurence).—Third-row byblœmen. Pretty when in a fine state, which is not often; generally too full. 5s.

Brown's Polyphemus.—Fourth-row bizarre. Much superior to all others. £10 10s.

Brown's Ulysses.—Second-row bizarre. The same may be said of this. £5 5s.

Adrian (Franklin).—Second or third-row bizarre. Much after Junius Brutus. 7s. 6d.

Curtius (Clark).—Second-row byblœmen. Feathered, occasionally a little creamy, but good. £1.

Fair Rosamond (Laurence).—Second-row rosy byblœmen. Deep feather and a little flame. £1 10s.

Pinder's Earl of Leicester.—Second-row bizarre. } Evidently
Pinder's Hero of England.—Second-row bizarre. } from the same breeder. They are both good, well-marked feather and flame.

Julia.—First-row rose. The clean one. 5s.

Lady Waldegrave (Laurence).—Second-row rose. Flame and feather. When in a fine state, good, but generally rather full. £1 1s.

Lucetta (Laurence).—Second-row rose. Feather and flame, delicate. £1.

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Both (Rutley).—Fourth row. Called by Goldham, byblœmen; by Laurence, bizarre. It is creamy. 5s.

Damon (Clark).—Fourth row. This also is creamy. Although these two are not distinct enough for either class, one of each is recommended, for contrast, in a large collection.

Lady Jane (Laurence).—Second-row rose. Pretty. This will occasionally make a very near approach to Sarah. £2 2s.

Rosalia.—Second-row rose. Feather and flame, of a deep brilliant red. £1 11s. 6d.

Emily (Laurence).—Fourth-row rose. Flame and feather. 10s.

PLANTS FOR SUMMER DECORATION.

BY THE EDITOR.

As an appropriate paper for our May number, we notice a few plants which will be suitable for the above purpose; and we are sure it will be acceptable to very many of our readers, whether moving in the higher circles of life, or in a more humble sphere.

Verbenas are everybody's favourites, and in fact, the colours are now so varied, that most beautiful combinations and picturesque effect may be obtained by these flowers alone.

We must also name *Plumbago Larpentæ*. This proves itself an invaluable plant for summer decoration. The flowers are a beautiful blue. Next to this, *Cuphea platycentra* is worthy of extensive cultivation. Its flowers, which are scarlet tubes, tipped with black and white, are produced in endless profusion. The plant itself is neat in habit, and very pretty.

For yellow, there is *Calceolaria amplexicaule*, a very good and showy plant. And for fragrance what can beat the *heliotropes?* There is the old Peruviana, which is now excelled by Triomphe de Liege and Voltairianum; and a splendid variety, named Souvenir de Liege, is advertised in the present number, by Hugh Low and Co. of Clapton.

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As a deep rosy crimson, the *dark petunias* are well adapted; and by shortening the shoots and pegging down, they make a most attractive mass.

Salvia splendens, with scarlet flowers; *Salvia patens*, with splendid light purple, and a variety with white flowers, introduced by Messrs. Wood, of Maresfield, are all excellent. These plants, if properly trained, make large bushes, and are adapted for other purposes of embellishment besides bedding.

The *anagallis* are very pretty. Monelli major is bright blue. Grandiflora is a large red. Cœrulea compacta, with blue flowers, is of closer habit than the preceding. When the sun shines, these plants are very attractive, but in dull weather, they do not make much show. They belong to the same family as the little pimpernel, or Poor Man's Weather-glass, which closes on the approach of rain; and though cultivation has given them advantages over their humble relative (which inhabits waste places), still they have the same disposition to close their flowers in chilly or cloudy weather.

The *Pentstemon major*, with scarlet flowers, and the *lobelias*, with blue, will rank amongst some of the best. The L. gracilis is prostrate, and makes dense tufts of its pretty blue flowers.

The *Bouvardia splendens*, *lævigata*, and *triphylla*, bear scarlet trumpet-shaped blossoms, in the style of the Trumpet Honeysuckles.

We must not forget such things as *fuchsias* and *scarlet geraniums*, which are amongst the greatest favourites. Of the latter, Frogmore, Tom Thumb, Nosegay, Firebrand, Howick Surprise, and Shrubland are well adapted for the purpose.

We would advise those who buy not to have their plants sent without the pots, unless the balls of soil are carefully packed in moss. We have seen such plants as verbenas sent in tin cases, to save the expense of carriage: poor miserable things (if new), direct from the propagating pit. Perhaps the party receiving them plants them out, supposing that they

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must do well; they, however, receive a check that takes the best part of the season to get over, instead of affording that beauty which the purchaser fondly anticipated. We would, therefore, always recommend buyers to order their plants in small pots, to be sent by luggage train; the difference of expense will be amply compensated by the well doing and beauty of the plants.

CULTIVATION OF PRIZE GOOSEBERRIES.

BY MR. THOMAS CHIPPENDALE.

OBSERVING that you have some readers of the *Midland Florist* who are very fond of growing prize gooseberries, and having been a grower of this very useful fruit from my boyhood, generally entering from six to ten shows each year, and having always been very successful, which causes me to think that my method is not a bad one, I therefore send you a description of the manner in which I cultivate this plant.

My garden has been used for growing this fruit forty-four years, consequently the soil is not suited for the growth of large fruit; therefore, when I have a favourite plant to set, I take out the old soil, to the depth of half a yard, about four feet square, and fill up the space with clods which I have had in keeping about a year, and turned over once a month, until the middle of October, which I consider the very best time for planting out; I then cut my plant to a suitable length, say about six inches long in each shoot, and carefully remove all the bottom buds with a very sharp knife, taking care not to damage the stem; I next place it in the centre of the space prepared, and cover the roots to the depth of about two inches with the compost in which it is planted. The tree is then left till the beginning of February, when I give it about three good spadesful of cow dung, which has been kept in the shade about eighteen

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months, and add a little road sand to it. I let the manure remain on the bed in pieces about the size of a goose-egg till the middle of April, when I rub it well together, adding a little new soil. This is done after a shower of rain.

About the middle of May I look after the fruit, and remove all double blooms, or where there are two on one stem I take one of them off; and where they lie one to another in a way likely to damage either, I also remove one. If I think the fruit is likely to be large, about the middle of June, I give a good spadeful of old cow dung; but if not promising, I would rather take from the plant than add to it.

If the weather is very warm in the months of June and July, I shade the tree from the sun, in the middle of the day, taking care that the covering is not within two feet of the foliage, to allow the air to circulate freely, which is a matter of the greatest importance. After this, I do not meddle with them, except to keep down the weeds and caterpillars. About the beginning of August, the fruit will be ripe, and fit for exhibition.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FLOWERS AND PLANTS.

Our indefatigable friend, H.S.M., has just forwarded to us some extracts from his manuscript notices of new flowers which came under his observation during the summer of 1848. We believe most of the varieties here named are to be met with in the trade; but we give them in his own words:—

You would certainly have been delighted with some of the antirrhinums. There is indeed a marked

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improvement about this class of flowers, and few are more ornamental, compact in growth, and profuse in flowering. I think some of the sorts sold out during the last few years, are not deserving of the high encomiums past on them. Perhaps one of the most singular as well as pretty varieties I met with was

Lady Bird, a very apt designation. It is of good form, with white ground colour, spotted over its whole surface with dark red spots.

Marie Antoinette (Stewart's) I also admired, though I have seen others of somewhat similar character, yet the markings were well defined and dark. White ground, striped with crimson.

Unique (Ivery) was singular and attractive, the tube being red, with bronze lips.

In cinerarias I have noted many excellent varieties, and I think Mr. Henderson is worthy of the extensive patronage he enjoys, for the improvement he has effected in these very beautiful flowers.

Annie (Henderson) is really a very excellent variety. The colour is hardly purple, but between that and light marone, with a pure white centre.

Resplendens (Appleby).—The habit of this plant is excellent, being compact and bushy; the flowers are above the medium size, and up to the mark in point of form; as to the colour, it is a beautiful warm pink or lake. I have this marked as very superior.

Eleanor (Henderson).—A very fine white flower, of large size; the edge or lacing on the petals is light scarlet.

Cerito (Henderson).—First-rate. I saw this plant when it was hardly blown, but I am satisfied that it is one-of-half-a-dozen; perhaps not so vivid and brilliant as the preceding, but remarkably chaste. White ground, edged with lavender.

Alboni (Henderson).—First-rate habit, producing its beautiful flowers in a compact mass; they are individually of fine form, and in the aggregate make a splendid appearance; they are white, distinctly edged with light rose.

Emily (Henderson).—This I was as much pleased with as any, the contrast in the flowers was so striking. White and dark purple margin. A very beautiful thing.

I must not forget to add, amongst these new ones which I have just named, that the following, though not of so recent a date, are very fine:—

Crimson Perfection.—Worthy of its name, being beautiful in the extreme.

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Maid of Artois.—An extra fine purple.

And last, though not least worthy,

Tom Thumb.—A splendid white flower, with a deep margin of crimson.

VERBENAS.

You particularly requested me, in my journeyings, to note this tribe of plants, and knowing that many of your readers will be anxious to hear of some of the best, I only noted those which I thought particularly good; for there really are so many which are so much alike, that casual observers would be inclined to assert they were the same. I think, amongst this class,

Countess of Harewood (I could not ascertain the name of the raiser) is excellent. It is cream-coloured, and the flowers are individually large; the truss also is good, but the fine and distinct centre renders it peculiarly attractive.

The Duke of Norfolk, with his "jaundiced eye," is a fine flower; the trusses are large, vivid scarlet, with yellow centre.

Honourable Mrs. Lascelles.—Of this I only saw a cut bloom. The trusses of flowers were good, though their shape might be better; the colour is fine purple, rendered most attractive with its white centre.

Vicomtess de Conidal.—Perhaps the most curiously distinct of any that came under my observation. It is scarlet, with rather yellowish tips, and the centre of the flower yellow. Though this variety is unlike anything else that I saw, still there were many that I liked better.

For bedding, *Baker's Cardinal* appears to me to be an excellent sort; I like the close prostrate varieties: and *Junius*, raised, I believe, by the same party, was certainly excellent. Plum colour, or purplish crimson; a very fine sort for exhibition.

Princess Alice (Wyness), which I believe you have before noticed, will fully bear out your recommendation. It really is most beautiful, and will, I think, be the flower of the season. Joined to most excellent form, the eye is immediately arrested by its beautiful contrast. White, with an almost scarlet centre, you will say is distinct enough.

Royal Purple I also greatly admire. As its name implies, it is first-rate, the colour is so rich. It is apparently, from its habit, a fine sort for bedding.

Chauverie is capital. A foreign variety, I believe. The raiser of a flower would not willingly give his own name to an inferior production, and this bears out my supposition; it is

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deep scarlet, with a very dark centre, and I think will be a great favourite.

I have not yet done my list, and must tell you somewhat about some other fine things; but really my note-book, though a bulky one, is nearly full of *mems*, which I hope to send you from time to time.

FUCHSIAS.

You have heard that Mr. John Salter has left Versailles, driven from France during the revolution of February. He has introduced the F. Corymbiflora alba, a very fine plant. You described it well in a late number. Amongst new ones coming out, there is

The Rajah.—A splendid dark variety, with purple corolla, the sepals reflexing in the way of a Martagon lily.—[This sort was raised by John Wilmore, Esq. of Birmingham *(see advertisement in present number)*; and we saw blooms of it, during the summer, at Birmingham, and can also speak to its excellence.—Ed.]

General Negrier (Milliez).—A very good variety; tube pink, with orange corolla. Though I like the contrast of purple best, still I think this a fine sort.

Lord Nelson (Smith) will do. The petals in this flower reflex, and the tube has a waxy appearance, with a purplish corolla. I was much pleased with this fine sort.

In my travels, of course I did not forget hardy plants. A beautiful delphineum, raised in Yorkshire, I regret to say, I did not see till the bloom was nearly past; but the variety, which is styled D. Weltoniæ, is evidently fine, and from descriptions received by parties well competent to form an opinion, it is a very desirable addition to this charming family of plants. It was stated to be raised from D. Hulmii, which really I think a mistake, as I always imagined this variety never bore seed. It is, however, more in the style of D. Barlowii, except that it is more double.

In phloxes I saw several interesting and pretty varieties. The size that some of the flowers now attain is astonishing. In self-coloured varieties,

Harrison's Perfection is one of the best. The form is very excellent, and the colour a deep rosy pink.

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Madame Salter.—This is not so fine in form as the preceding, but will make a good sort for exhibition. The ground colour is not quite white, but is distinctly striped with pink. I should say a seedling from Van Houttii.

Albion was another fancy variety. This has a white ground, spotted with pink, in some cases rather indistinctly; yet a good variety.

Rodigazi is one of the best of the stripes, and I am certain will be very much in demand; it is really very handsome.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZATION.

The mode by which M. Haquin has effected hybridization is truly interesting. Many azaleas have been fertilized with pollen kept for six weeks; that of camellias has been employed successfully after having been kept sixty-five days. Fertile seeds of lilies have been obtained from the application of pollen which had been saved forty-eight days. During the last flowering season of camellias, M. Haquin collected pollen with which he intends hybridizing in the ensuing year. The following are some details of his procedure:—The stamens are taken out just before their anthers begin to open; they are immediately wrapped in sized paper, and laid in a warm place for twenty-four hours, by which time the pollen separates from the stamens. It is then collected, and enclosed in thin sheet lead, and kept in a cool dry place. I think the preservation would be rendered more perfect by placing the pollen between two concave glasses, as is done with vaccine matter. No limit can be assigned to the time during which pollen will retain its fertilizing power, provided the minute globules of which its masses are composed are not crushed by too great pressure. If there be a limit, it will be for experiment to ascertain. I

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believe the preservation of pollen between glasses is worthy of trial. The subject of the above statements is not new, for artificial fertilization has been long since practised on a large scale; but it is so powerful an agent in the hands of the horticulturist, that nothing which tends to render it more common can be considered unimportant.

Gardener's Chronicle.

RETROSPECTIVE CRITICISM.

My attention has lately been called to an article which has appeared in a recent number of your *Midland Florist*, and which I think much calculated to mislead tulip growers. I allude to a descriptive list of Dr. Saunders's tulips, by Mr. Davidson. Any person reading that list, would naturally suppose Dr. Saunders's Topaz and Mr. Goldham's Napoleon synonymous. One portion of that description I know to be correct, as far as Napoleon is concerned, viz. clean and constant; but how Dr. S.'s Topaz, bizarre, and Mr. G.'s Napoleon, a seedling and second-row byblœmen, can be one and the same thing, I am at a loss to understand. If they are to be alike, in the name of common sense, let them both be of the same class; but should Mr. D.'s description be correct, except that the difference of class seems to prevent it, without doubt they would be no little novelties, and Mr. D.'s supposition of their being a joint purchase seem very probable. Not having had the pleasure of seeing Dr. S.'s Topaz, I am unable to say it bears any other name—Napoleon I am sure it does not; but should they prove the same, as Mr. D. asserts, I have little doubt but that Mr. G. would most willingly adopt any previously-recognized name, and by so doing, assist in checking that endless con-

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fusion of new names for rebroken tulips now becoming so common, and which, doubtless, would never occur, were fanciers to make themselves better acquainted with the distinct varieties already named and in cultivation. I beg to apologize for troubling you and your readers thus far; but believing the value of the various articles in your useful journal to depend on their correctness, and thinking it the duty of every one to add his mite to that store, I beg to subscribe myself your very humble servant.

H. GOLDHAM.

RED BIZARRE TULIPS.

A CORRESPONDENT, in the last number of the *Midland Florist*, seems to complain of the omission of a separate class for these tulips from the York schedule of prizes. But ought we really to find fault with this? If we examine the *byblœmen class*, we shall find a large number of pale-coloured varieties; some of them of a beautiful pale lilac or lavender colour, and others partaking so nearly of the character of roses, as scarcely to be separated from them. So also in the *rose class*, there are many excellent kinds which are of a deep cherry or crimson colour, and so dark as occasionally to be regarded as byblœmens. It would, therefore, be quite as reasonable to require separate classes for these light-coloured byblœmens and dark-coloured roses, as for red bizarres. Indeed I see no necessity for any addition to the ordinary number of classes at our tulip exhibitions.

Red bizarres are as truly bizarres as black ones, and suffer little by comparison with them. *All other points being equal*, a black byblœmen will beat a pale one, and a scarlet rose a dark one, simply because they excel in one point, viz. intensity of colour. For the same reason, and no other, a dark bizarre will beat a red one. But let a dark bizarre fail in any

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one point, especially if it be a material point, such as form or purity, or style of marking, then the perfect red one must have precedence.

These considerations lead me to conclude that the York committee have acted properly, in not assigning a separate class for red bizarres.

G. W. HARDY.

Warrington, April 5, 1849.

FLORICULTURAL IMPOSTORS.

I AM glad to see, in your number for March, that you have drawn the attention of your subscribers to the impositions practised on the public by foreign floricultural impostors. I am one of those unfortunate individuals whom you describe as having been "*done brown*;" and I could name several gentlemen in this county (Lancashire), who like myself, have been severly *singed.*

About a year ago, two persons, pretending to be Frenchmen, having a young man to act as interpreter, visited Preston, Lancaster, Manchester, &c. offering, "plants of the most unheard-of colours," and I may add, of the most unheard-of names, viz. "Superbe du monde," &c. of which they exhibited beautifully-coloured plates. My "Superbe du monde," for which I gave ten shillings, turned out to be nothing better than a wild plant, having flowers like the hemlock. My yellow roses, camellias, lilacs, oleanders, pæonies, &c. have all turned out mere trash. I know a gentleman who laid out upwards of twenty-five pounds with these vagabonds, and who would surrender the whole lot for less than five pounds.

Hoping that this statement may assist you in "putting a stop to so villanous a system," I remain your obedient servant,

DONE BROWN.

P.S.—I enclose may card and address.

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Part III.

REVIEWS.

THE FLORIST. *London: Chapman & Hall, 186, Strand.*

THE illustration is specimens of *Tigrida pavonia* and *conchiflora* (Tiger flowers), and, though old plants in our gardens, are very beautiful, and deserve to be extensively cultivated. We agree with the writer, that as these plants hybridize and seed freely, a large field for experiment is opened.

The contents comprise in part a good Descriptive List of Camellias. A few of the best are,

Alexina (Low).—A superb flower, very beautifully formed; white, with carmine stripes.
Candidissima.—A very large and fine white.
Eximia.—A splendid sort, beautifully formed, deep carmine. This variety may now be had at a reasonable price.
Imbricata.—Extra, rose, occasionally striped white, exquisite form.
Forbsii.—Light cherry, finely formed, first-rate.
Fimbriata alba.—The edges of this beautiful white camellia are white, finely serrated. It is of excellent form.

Unpruned Drooping Roses, by Mr. Rivers, is, like all other communications from that gentleman, highly interesting. But perhaps, one of the best things in the number is the Lists of Florists' Flowers, arranged by Mr. Edwards, of Wace Cottage, Holloway. Altogether a very good number.

THE FARMER'S, COTTAGER'S, AND POOR MAN'S FRIEND; OR A COMPLETE TREATISE, POINTING OUT THE CAUSE AND EFFECTS OF THE DISEASE IN POTATOES, ALSO THE REMEDY, ETC. By H. D. Gainsley, of Grantham.

THIS is a most singular book; and from the circumstance of the writer being anxious to benefit his fel

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low men, which he appears most desirous to enforce on the attention of his readers, we are disposed to deal leniently with it; but we cannot flatter the author, either as to the correctness of his deductions, the force of his arguments, or the beauty of his poetry. That he has a firm belief in what he writes we are certain, as he has published the work at his own expense. His anxiety that others should read it, as well as his own opinion of its merits, are manifested by the postscript to the preface.

"It is hoped," he observes, "some charitable person or persons will take into consideration the destitute Irish, and give an order for a thousand copies, for gratuitous distribution in different counties of the Irish island, which will tend to do more good than a thousand pounds in money."

Our readers will have some notion of the writer's feelings, when he says, in the first page, "Happily would it be for men to learn and know that the hand of God is in this matter; that doubtless it is sent as a scourge for the wickedness of the people, manifested so ungratefully in the face of much light and knowledge in divine and spiritual things." And further on, "but notwithstanding our ingratitude, God has provided a remedy, in the bowels of the earth, to stop the progress of the disease."

Here we would, with the best of feelings, ask the author, if the *disease is sent as a punishment*, would not the Almighty remove it when the scourge has had its due effect, namely, in making the inhabitants of the earth more obedient and subservient to his will? Does the author for one moment suppose, that all the lime in the world, *applied by mortals*, can stay its progress, if, as he asserts, it is sent as a punishment by the Divine Being? We trow not. There is such a thing as *effect*, proceeding from *natural causes;* and here science and observation, which teaches mankind remedies for certain diseases, whether connected with the human body or with the vegetable kingdom, may be successfully applied; but

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it is presumptuous to suppose that *natural* remedies can stay *supernatural* agencies.

The author is one of the *aphis school;* for he tells us that the insect which does most damage "is a little white fly, which breeds in the ground; and this year, I am sorry to say, they have propagated by millions in the sets of potatoes." Of this we do not doubt; only he is confounding *cause* and *effect.* The presence of the flies and their larvæ or grubs, is accounted for by the diseased potato being their proper food. That the potatoes were diseased *first* we have no doubt. Every one at all conversant with the decomposition of animal or vegetable substances, well knows that insects and their larvæ (flies and maggots), are the natural consequences, and form a part (though decaying matter, overrun with insects, may be offensive both to our sight and smell) of that beautiful dependance which each link of creation has on the other. *Instinct* taught these flies to lay their eggs in the *diseased potatoes:* the same instinct teaches the *large blue fly* to lay its eggs on *carrion.* We must therefore totally object to this view of the case.

His ideas of diseased potatoes being most frequent on wet land are given as follows:—He asks the question, How it happens to be so? and immediately follows his answer, "Because there is most top, and consequently most cover for insects, and also an easier passage to the root." Nonsense! If the moisture of the soil causes a large top, it will be pretty evident that the influence of the sun's rays is kept from the surface of the soil, and by keeping it constantly moist, acts prejudicially on the tubers. Besides, what cover does *his insects* want, if they are below the surface of the soil, feeding on the diseased set or tuber?

We cannot follow the author through many of his discoveries, but must quote one, amongst a number of a similar character. At page 11, he says, "I took up one of the largest sized grubs, to see in what

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way I could destroy it. I accordingly sent for some unslaked lime, and dredged a little upon it, and in an instant it burst open, producing another insect, which was very small, yet visible to the naked eye. Thus we see, there is one insect bred from another, so destructive to our crops, that unless we guard against them, it is useless to plant our seed." We should say, if this were true, "decidedly so." Here is a fact for entomologists! A grub produced from a fly, which attacks the potatoes, also reproducing itself!

Mr. Gainsley's intentions, doubtless, are good; but unfortunately he has a *queer way* of making his theories at all likely to be beneficial. And in conclusion, we must note a specimen of the poetry which is interspersed through the work. At page 6, in allusion to infection, he observes,

"Soon as one plot had begun to rot,
It's well if they don't all go to pot."

We should wonder very much if they did get to the pot. But seriously, we are sorry that the author did not consult some one, previously to "appearing in print," who could have advised him on the subject. It would have saved him much trouble, and some expense, leaving all other considerations out of the question.

QUERIES.

In the spring of this year, a grass field has been divided into gardens, in which the occupants have been very busily employed in digging, planting, &c.; but now, when about completing, instead of their plants beginning to grow and promise as was expected from such rich and fresh land, the grub has made its appearance in such numbers as threaten destruction to the crops. Now, as I shall have to remove to a similar piece, next autumn, will you, or some reader of the *Midland Florist*, be so kind as to advise what should be done to escape the mischief? Could any sort of dressing be given to the land, that would keep the progenitors (the *Tommy Longlegs*, I believe, is blamed for discharging this office) from it? and if so, what

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would be the best dressing, and at what time should it be applied? Burning, most likely, will not be practicable; but should it be, would it be the most effectual, or, as some would say, the only effectual remedy?

Grimsby. D. T.

In several of the London seed lists, I have repeatedly noticed the "vegetable seeds of a Couve tronchuda" named, but never have been so lucky yet as to see an explanation of this so—what shall I say?—named?—plant. Oh! that the foreign wording of plants and seeds was done away with, and their names expressed in English. What am I to know of it, from such a name? If you will disclose it to me, and give a little about its cultivation, I shall be doubly thankful, as it is considered a very excellent vegetable by all the publishers.

FAIRDOOS.

I have read with much pleasure and profit, in your valuable little work, descriptive notes on tulips, pinks, pansies, polyanthuses, auriculas, &c. and as blooming time of auriculas and polyanthuses is now on, the kindness of any of your contributors, in taking notes of a few of their best *(old* sorts as well as new—as many of the new sorts are not within the reach of *all* florists), and inserting them in the pages of the *Midland Florist*, will confer a favour on many, who have not the opportunity of seeing them in bloom. Descriptive notes of pinks, pansies, and other florists' flowers, taken throughout the year, and inserted in your work, will oblige

AN ORIGINAL READER.

Will you oblige me by giving in your next number, if possible, some directions for growing China asters and zinnias; and also where some really good zinnia seed can be procured, as I cannot get any hereabouts? Perhaps you will also state the properties of a first-rate zinnia.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST NUMBER.

[Zinnias and China asters are best raised on gentle heat; they may then be pricked out, when strong enough, in store pans or pots, or on a well-prepared border. After a time, in favourable weather, remove them to their final destination. Any respectable London seedsman will furnish the seed. *Provincials* ought also to be able to do *so*. In the zinnia, the less starry the appearance the better. The flower should be circular, the florets broad and obtuse, touching each other, and the colour distinct and bright. There is much improvement required in this class of flowers.]

I have a small vinery, and shall be glad to know what use I can make of the back wall. Will peaches or nectarines do, trained upon it? Being under the shade of the vines, I am afraid they will not. I shall also be obliged, if you, or any of

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your correspondents, will inform me of the cause of the young leaves of some of my camellias becoming spotted, then blotched, and afterwards falling off, while at the same time, others, potted in the same soil, are growing pretty well. W. D.

[If the vines are trained on the single rod system, other vines may be trained on a lattice, fastened to the back wall, which would be preferable to either peaches or nectarines. The camellias are most probably root-bound; that is to say, the roots are so matted together as to be impervious to water, which escapes between them and the sides of the pot, without benefitting the plant. They must be taken out, and the soil shaken from the roots, which should be disentangled, and some of the larger ones removed. The head should then be cut back, and the plant repotted.]

I am most anxious to be informed by you, if there is anything that will prevent the attacks of a small black slug, which has for the last two years destroyed my asparagus. I have gone to very great trouble and expense with my asparagus beds, and each year, as soon as the plants are about two or three inches high, they are eaten by a small slug. If you can give me any remedy, you will greatly oblige a constant subscriber.

C. I. P.

[These pests may easily be destroyed by watering the beds, late on *moist evenings*, with salt and water. Experience has proved that where asparagus beds have been very recently planted, brine has had an injurious tendency; but with established beds, the application is highly beneficial, independent of the utter destruction of the *slugs*.]

You will perhaps think my query rather out of the common line. I am going to have a vinegar plant, and I hope you will be so kind as to let me know what will be the best way to make vinegar from it. An answer to this, in your next *Midland Florist*, will much oblige a subscriber to the first two volumes, and going on with the third. F. S.

[Will some of our readers help us to answer this correspondent? Some friends of ours speak highly of the vinegar made from this plant.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A FEW GOOD SCARLET GERANIUMS.—Tom Thumb, Countess of Sefton, Firebrand, Eclipse, Shrubland, Woolridge's Seedling, Frost's Superb; and as new and first-rate, Baker's Fire Queen.

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ON THE POSSIBILITY OF HYBRIDIZING THE GOOSEBERRY WITH THE CURRANT, AND VICE VERSA.—In reply to Eborensis, we can only say, that no instance of cross-fecundation of these fruits has ever come under our notice, and we believe there is no case on record. If it could be accomplished, no doubt the plan suggested at page 127 might be carried out. We have seen, at Nottingham, a currant grafted on a gooseberry tree, and the attachment was complete. This gooseberry and currant, grown in a pot, has often been exhibited, with ripe fruit on it, at horticultural meetings in this neighbourhood.

CHERRIES.—James Johnson asks several questions. First, "Are they a profitable fruit?" Yes; or so many people would not grow them. On dry warm land, they succeed better than on cold clays; and on thin gravelly soil, they are more suitable than either apples, pears, or plums. The May Duke is one of the best, and is most extensively cultivated. The Black Tartarian, Biggareau, the Elton, and Black Eagle, are all fine cherries. Reine Hortense is a first-rate new variety, and ought to be extensively cultivated. The Morella is an old but beautiful sort, adapted for walls and pales which have but little sun.

In answer to your querist, William Dobbs, on making rhubarb wine, preserving, &c. I send you the following. I can vouch for its answering well:—For rhubarb wine, cut five pounds of rhubarb, put to it one gallon of cold water, let it stand a week or nine days, then strain it, and to every gallon add four pounds of brown sugar and a lemon and a half, cut in slices, and put in the cask. Set the cask in a warm cellar, or other place, to work, and when the wine ceases to hiss, stop it down, and bottle off at Christmas, or in the spring. None of the ingredients require boiling. The middle or latter end of September is the best time for making, as the saccharine juices of the rhubarb are then the strongest. To preserve rhubarb, take it when young, peel and string, and cut it into lengths; put it into a pan, with a very small quantity of water, just sufficient to keep it from burning; take off, and strain the liquid from it, before it becomes too soft; then to every pint of rhubarb add one pound of sugar, put it in the pan again, and boil gently for half an hour, or till it becomes of the thickness of jam, which may be ascertained by placing a small quantity on a plate, to cool. When done, put it in small pots, same as other preserves.

Cheltenham. W. D.

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR MAY.

FLOWER GARDEN.

THE merry month of May is also a busy month; and in the floricultural department of gardening, particularly so. Now is the time for thinning out *annuals*, supposing these have been sown as directed in our first volume; it will be absolutely necessary to remove two-thirds of them. If the plants are allowed space, of course they will develope themselves, which cannot be the case when they are crowded together. Such things as *nemophillas*, *Clarkias*, *escholtzias*, *erysimums*, and others, which are not only beautiful, but well known to the majority of our readers, may be thus *thinned out;* and if our readers will try the plan fairly, we are sure they will be satisfied with it. In planting out those which have been raised in frames, it must not be supposed that when they are placed in the ground they may take their chance. Choose, if possible, showery weather for the operation; it will save much trouble and disappointment. Dry and keen winds are seriously detrimental to plants of the description we now allude to; and the trouble of previously potting in small pots, and gradually hardening, will be amply repaid by their size and vigour during the summer; for it will be apparent to every one, that the *annual* which can be placed where it is to flower, with a ball of soil and a mat of roots, will have great advantage over one which has not a particle of earth attached to its fibres when planted. The different varieties of *convolvolus* (ipomea) are very beautiful, when carefully grown, previous to being turned out. The *Scarlet* is very neat and handsome. *Ipomea Burridgii* is new and good. For wire framework, which can be obtained cheaply, few things make a better display. The dwarf variety of *Impatiens glanduligera* (a balsam) is a very decorative plant, and should by all means be grown. *Phlox Drummondii* is a most excellent and attractive bedding plant. Of this there are now some splendid varieties. *Mesembryanthemum tricolor* is a succulent and very beautiful thing, adapted for warm and sunny exposures. We might point out many others, but this must form a separate article.

For *half hardy plants* we must refer our readers to a small but choice selection, in the present number, any and all of which may be obtained, and will make a fine display during the summer and autumn months.

Tender annuals, for decoration, in pits, frames, and greenhouses, such as *balsams*, *cockscombs*, &c, must be potted carefully,

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one each in a small pot. As these fill with roots, they must be shifted to a larger size, and occasionally they may have liquid manure.

Stocks, marigolds (French and African), China asters, and similar plants, should also be put out.

In the artizans' little greenhouses (and we hope that now glass is so easily attainable, many have them—we know that they have in our own neighbourhood), *cinerarias* will be in bloom. When they go out, or the flowers fade, cut the plant over, in order to make it throw out suckers, which, when sufficiently large, may be taken off and potted; or, if allowed to remain, they will flower in the winter.

Geraniums will be showing bloom. They may have occasional supplies of weak liquid manure.

Chrysanthemums.—Cuttings of these should now be taken off; they strike root easily in gentle heat.

All young plants, in pots, must be repotted as they require it; on this, much of their health and future beauty depends.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

Carnations and Picotees.—Before the plants have made large roots, it will be advisable to place sticks to them, and we would direct our readers to the excellent plan by Mr. Vialls, as explained in this month's number. When deferred to a later period, thrusting in the stick destroys some of the roots, none of which, we are sure, are made in vain, nor can the plant spare them without injury. Attend to regular watering; let this be done effectually, taking care that the soil does not shrink from the sides of the pot, so as to allow the water to drain away without benefitting the roots.

Auriculas.—Place the plants, as they go out of bloom, in a shady situation, out of the way of drip, bearing in mind that they require regular and careful attention, if either future pleasure or profit is expected. Prick out seedlings, as soon as they have got four leaves, in well prepared vegetable mould, and encourage their growth by every available means.

Polyanthuses.—Shade and moisture are absolutely necessary for these plants, at this season. Save seed from the best named flowers; also from the best pin-eyed varieties. Sow the seed separately, and we shall be obliged by a report of the result.

Tulips will require supporting, not because they cannot *support* themselves, but in order to prevent the wind blowing them one against the other. Care must be taken, in putting down the stick, that the bulb is not injured. Attend to hybridizing. Well-formed flowers, on the outside beds, or good breeders, exposed to the influences of light, sun, and air, may be successfully crossed. Seedlings should be marked as they bloom. We would not destroy one with a good shaped cup and clean stamens, even if the lower part of the cup should be slightly tinged; for we are certain, that some flowers of this description,

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when they break feathered, are perfectly clean; but when in a flamed state, they will be foul. Those with long cups, pointed and thin petals, we certainly would advise the amateur to destroy, on the principle that he had better grow one good variety than have fifty inferior ones.

Pinks.—Place small and neat sticks to these plants, and top-dress the beds with good decomposed manure. Guano has been used, but with doubtful success, and stronger and more powerful manure has been applied, which made even the pink suffused in colour.

Ranunculuses —Water between the rows—not often, but when it is done, let it be *well done*. Keep the beds free from weeds, and occasionally flood the walks round the beds.

Dahlias may be planted out in the south of England and Ireland, in the first week; in the north, it is better deferred till the second. The soil should be rich and well worked. Put down the main support at the time of planting.

VEGETABLES.

Cauliflower broccoli may now be sown. Much attention has of late years been directed to this excellent vegetable, consequently much improvement is apparent. Our readers should inquire for the Willcove, Walcheren, and Ellitson's Mammoth, three fine and new sorts. Chappell's Cream, Portsmouth, and Grange's Early are also very good.

In the early part of the month, attention must be given to *celery*. The plants should be pricked out on very rich soil (decayed leaves and cow manure will do), so that when planted in the trenches, they may have abundance of this compost attached to their roots, which will prevent any check.

Onions, sown in drills, must be kept well stirred with a small hoe; not only does it keep the weeds down, which take much nutriment from the bed, but it allows the air and gasses to have freer access, which is of great consequence to the plants.

Rhubarb should have the flower stalks removed. The same may be said of *sea-kale*. By allowing them to remain, the plants are much weakened.

Peas must be kept clean. Stick them as they require it. If they have been allowed plenty of room, the plants may be topped; by this means, laterals are more freely thrown out, and consequently the produce increased. Sow for a late crop.

That useful and prolific vegetable, the *scarlet runner*, may be sown. They should always be planted on the north side of borders; they will not then shade other crops so much.

The middle of the month, plant out *cucumbers*, on ridges of manure, covered with a little soil. These, in favourable summers, are very productive, and will also supply gherkins, for pickling, in abundance.

Plant out *lettuce* in showery weather. The smaller the plants the better.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

HINTS TO THE INEXPERIENCED IN PINKS.

BY ALEXANDER OF TYNESIDE.

PERMIT an old florist and constant reader of your invaluable little work to offer, through its medium, a few remarks on the pinks grown in this northern locality, and on those that have been introduced amongst us from the southern and midland counties, for the guidance, chiefly, of our numerous young aspirants to floricultural honours, and to prevent, if possible, some of that disappointment usually resulting to the inexperienced in those matters, in their earlier selections for the purposes of competition, particularly in Newcastle, where the awards are made by judges almost invariably actuated by such principles (now well known) as guided the mind of that greatest of all floral arbitrators—Glenny, at the time he issued his bold and incontrovertible standards for the future elegance of form and beauty of outline, &c. of all those yet hidden generations that were from time to time to be developed by the skilful and persevering energies of British florists. Our motto is not so much quantity without quality, or quality without quantity, but consists rather in a happy combination of both; and we would estimate perfection in the pink or carnation more by the substantial properties of *strength* and *weight*, than by that flimsy halfway plan of counting petals, and stopping short, or resting contented, after a flower has been obtained with fifteen or twenty, provided they turn out to be what is termed *fine*. Now, I

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must confess, *we* are not so soon satisfied; and our tastes, I have no doubt, may be ridiculed by some, and considered, like our climate, rude and unrefined. To such I would only say, visit us on a day of competition, and witness the mighty contrast between our old favourite and well filled specimens and those skeleton-looking *things* I have alluded to, wherein it would seem as if nature, in her *good designs*, had left only *half finished* what she *intended* as a *whole*, and I feel convinced the great superiority of the former will soon be quite apparent. The first remarks I shall make, are on

Garrett's Alpha.—A flower at once extremely attractive as to purity and delicacy of colouring, and deserving of a place in every leading stand. It is not always quite so well *up* as some sorts, yet, in dressing, this main defect in all double flowers may be greatly obviated by a skilful hand.

Barratt's Conqueror.—An old esteemed favourite, occasionally a little *pittish;* but when in true character, it ought to please everybody, for, for strength, form, purity, and smoothness of petal, it stands unrivalled. Its size is sometimes a drawback, being only medium at best, and consequently often seen below that standard.

Unsworth's Omega.—This is another old and full variety, much despised by many, though it perhaps has gained more single and class prizes than any other known here, and still retains "a local habitation and a name" amongst its old and warmest friends. Its chief, nay, its only defect, is a fringiness on the edge, that the *severe ones* of the times would scarcely tolerate, notwithstanding which, we rarely miss it in a stand of twelve, at our shows.

Kerr's Harriet.—A new face, fresh imported, under a good character, which it has pretty well maintained. It too is a good deal troubled with the offensive fringe, but the glowing scarlet which is so correctly distributed throughout the entire full flower, upon a ground of the fairest white, makes ample amends, rendering it a decided and deserving favourite.

Bragg's George Glenny.—A flower that has several good properties, though I think fewer than its namesake at first awarded it. I shall only point out what we consider its faults. It is a full flower, certainly, with well formed *exterior* petals, but the *interior* are so disproportionately small, that it rarely crowns well, resembling in some measure the disproportion witnessed in the respective guard and inside petals of a double anemone; it is also a late flower, and bad to bloom in time to stage with other varieties.

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Henbury's Rubens.—A beautiful flower, having the purest white and dark purple imaginable, contrasting sweetly upon its nobly-formed and gigantic petals; but, alas! it is a *burster*, and even when it is kept unsplit, from the shortness of its pod, the petals hang loose, and often, upon the least shake given to it, the best and most careful dressing is thrown into the utmost confusion. I can only recommend it as a show variety (and only on this account) to old and well-experienced hands, for I am sure, *they alone* can manage it. I think all *short pods* should be discarded, for we find that fullness is not only compatible with the *long pod*, but that in it the elevation of crown is seen to greater advantage, the guards being better supported than by the half-split calyx of the so called *bursters*.

Ward's Great Britain.—Decidedly to us "a gem of the first water," "without a fault, and faultless," and without further comment, I would say, up to the mark in every respect. It is rather difficult to manage in the blooming, but when fully *out*, under the careful eye of "an old stager," it is a glorious specimen of what a first-rate pink is and ought to be, and cannot fail to captivate the most fastidious and amply repay for all trouble.

Craiggy's Bob Tickler, Esq.—This is, indisputably, the finest purple-laced variety we have, quite full, and exquisitely formed, especially in the petals, which are just so many smooth-edged circular sections, surmounting each other in the most orderly succession, "small by degrees, and beautifully less," from calyx to crown, and margined by an unbroken lace of the sweetest description, leaving a distinct verge of white, that now almost indispensable ornament to every first-rate pink. I feel assured it will please every grower, and ought to belong to every one. At present, it is only in two or three hands, but has, I believe, been shown in the neighbourhood of London, and greatly admired by all who saw it. It has the peculiar property of throwing better blooms, if possible, on the *old stool*, than on the young and maiden plant, the colouring being narrower and more delicate.

Scott's Duchess of Northumberland.—A sweet and attractive variety, of the same class, and often a winner. The raiser, I believe, was handsomely rewarded, on presenting her Grace with the first bloom.

Wilson's Ponteland.—Quite a new and first-rate medium-sized variety of the rose class. It has a beautifully smooth petal, of great substance, and is certainly a desirable variety, but, I believe, rather scarce.

If the above remarks meet your approbation, in the cause for which they are intended, I shall continue, until I complete my list of descriptions, in a future number.

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JERSEY TULIPS.

In answer to your repeated request that I would give you some information respecting the cultivation of tulips and the amateurs of Jersey, I can only reply, that when I came here, five years ago, there was not a tulip to be seen, except such common Dutch mixtures as the merest tyro, in England, would not grow even on his borders; but now, thanks to example, I am happy to say, that proselytes of the first order have been made in the aristocracy of the land. The learned profession of the law, church and medicine, even the bench, and government house itself have added votaries to Flora, of the most enthusiastic class. But in these secluded islands we are too far off from the grand focus of horticulture to allow us to select for ourselves those new beauties which we should wish to add to our collections; and but too often we are deceived by vivid descriptions, which, when the flowers are bought, turn out to be like Æsop's mountain in labour, and produce but a mouse. This is discouraging; but in breeders we have been made amends. The soil of these islands partaking in a great degree of pulverised granite, proves to be particularly beneficial to the breaking of breeders. I have myself broken many which would add a grace to the best collections in England. I will send you a description of a few, as they arise in my mind, and will, as they increase, forward you a bulb of each, as the best specimen of what we can do in the extreme south of her Majesty's dominions.

We insulated speak of land almost unknown to you northeners; but through your valuable little work, the *Midland Florist*, the friends of floriculture, from the Channel Islands to those of Shetland, can meet as on central ground, and discuss the various merits of our productions, for the amusement or information of our brother florists.

I shall leave the discussion of established southern stars to Mr. Davidson, who lives amongst them, and

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is in himself a "constellation" of the highest order, and confine myself to those broken in Jersey.

Browne's Magnificent.—A third or fourth-row bizarre, of good shape and substance, rich yellow, marking heavy, perfectly clean, and a truly grand flower.

Browne's Defiance.—Broken from Devonshire breeder, but much shorter, say a second-row; petals remarkable for substance, yellow fine, clean, and feather nearly black.

Browne's Champion.—Fine bizarre, cup more expanded than the last, and feather confined to the edge of the petals, perfectly clean, and a first-rate fourth-row.

Queen Zenobia.—A bizarre of quite a different class, the yellow more of a lemon, marking reddish brown, and slightly feathered. A distinct and beautiful variety in a bed. Second row.

Rose Mary Ann.—A first-row, good cup, deep colour, well feathered, and quite pure.

The Wonder.—A byblœmen, broken in 1844, from Mr. Clark's breeder; cup fine, white most beautiful and stainless, colour intense (almost black), marking strikingly fine, being a perfect *star*, and feather; will come up to third row, and a strong root even in centre. This flower is really a gem, but as the breeders of Mr. Clark are now in everybody's hands, it may probably be broken by others, and named accordingly. It was named "The Wonder" by my esteemed friend, Capt. J. Goodrige, after his favourite and justly-esteemed steam packet.

Napoleon.—A fine second-row bizarre, broken from Mr. Walker's breeder. Habit remarkably strong, a stem like iron wire, the cup good and firm, feathering almost black, and perfectly clean. A very desirable flower.

E. M. BROWNE.

The Woodlands, St. Saviour's, Jersey.

ON RAISING SEEDLING CALCEOLARIAS.

BY MR. M. WOODHOUSE, WHITBY.

THE florist, in his varied pursuits, has no pleasure equal to that of raising seedlings. The subject is fraught with interest, from the moment the seed is sown, to the expansion of every flower—aye, even in fertilizing and gathering the seed. In resuming my observations on the culture of the calceolaria, I would

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add a few remarks (as promised in my former article) on raising seedlings.

On the plants coming into bloom, select those possessing the best properties to save seed from—not overlooking the *habit* of the plant. Remove them to a pit or frame, separate from the other plants, where they can have plenty of air, and as the blooms expand (the first blooms being generally the best), fertilize with the pollen of other varieties having some properties which the parent plant (that from which you intend to save the seed) does not possess. For instance, let the parent plant be the most perfect in form, and gather the pollen to fertilize with from some variety of more striking and attractive colours and marking. The pollen may be imparted with a camel hair pencil, or by removing the bloom you intend to impregnate with, when full of pollen, and applying the anthers to the male stamens of the parent plant. By tying a piece of string round the footstalk of the flower impregnated, you will learn which pod to select when gathering the seed, as some of the other flowers may have seeded from natural causes. As soon as the seed pods begin to turn brown, they will be fit to gather; which done, place them on a piece of paper in the sun, and the seed will soon rub out freely. Sow the seed as soon as ready, which will generally be by the latter part of July, or beginning of August, in shallow pans, or wide-mouthed pots, using plenty of drainage, and compost three-fourths peat and one-fourth vegetable mould, passed through a sieve, and mixed liberally with sand. Sprinkle the seed evenly on the top (not covering it too deep), press the soil gently down, and water with a very fine rose, so as not to displace the seeds, which are very minute. Place the seed pans in a warm situation, and shade from the mid-day sun. If a piece of glass is laid over the seed pans, it will keep the soil moist, and render frequent waterings unnecessary. As soon as the young plants are sufficiently large to handle, prick them out in pans, about

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two inches apart, water and keep them close for a few days, after which, allow plenty of air in mild weather, and let them have the benefit of night dews, when this can be done without danger of frost. When the plants begin to touch each other, pot them off singly into four-inch pots, and they may then be wintered in the same manner as the stock plants, and will all bloom the following spring. Much interest will now be excited, as different blooms expand, and in making your selection, it will be useless retaining any but what exhibit sound improvement on varieties already in cultivation.

As a guidance in this respect, keep in mind Mr. Glenny's standard:—Bloom perfectly round; colour, back bright as front; lip, throat, and calyx small; markings, if any, decided and dense; substance thick and stiff; stem strong and branching; foot-stalks elastic; plant decidedly shrubby, and the bloom just about the foliage. For a more detailed account of the properties of the calceolaria, see *Glenny's Properties of Flowers and Plants*, published by Houlston and Stoneman, a work which every amateur ought to possess.

By adopting the above directions, I have no doubt but the mere tyro will succeed; at the same time, it is quite probable that other routine may be pursued with equal success.

CROSS-BREEDING FLOWERS, PLANTS, ETC.

BY THE EDITOR.

We hope our readers have not forgotten our observations on this matter, in our last year's volume; and as we there explained all about *anthers*, *stigmas*, *farina*, &c. we need not recapitulate. We there stated that much money, as well as fame, might be gained by those parties who paid attention to these interesting experiments; and in corroboration, we shall lay before our readers a few remarks on the

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parentage of some very beautiful seedling rhododendrons, raised by Mr. John Moore, Perry Barr, near Birmingham. We congratulate that gentleman on his success, for we learn that these plants are lovely additions to this splendid tribe of flowering shrubs and trees. Mr. Moore has furnished us with the following description of these cross-bred rhododendrons:

Moreii.—Light rosy crimson, slightly tinged with purple; throat white, gradually deepening in colour towards the edges of the corolla, intensely spotted with dark reddish brown; truss large and conical.

Mortonianum.—Light rosy carmine, veined with deeper carmine; throat white, spotted with dark crimson spots; flowers circular, truss large and compact.

Delicatissimum.—Very light pink, with bright carmine spots; remarkably silky and delicate in appearance, large good-formed truss, habit dwarf.

Unicum.—Glowing bright rose. throat lighter, spots very dark rich crimson, truss full, compact, and very large; a first-rate variety.

Florabundum.—Deep crimson, with very dark blood coloured spots, like Smithii, but much larger; habit robust and dwarf, a very profuse bloomer.

Roseum Superbum.—Rosy pink, with deep carmine spots; remarkable for its size and shape, each flower being circular and nearly free from serrature, thus making a full, well-formed, and compact truss.

Now our readers must recollect that these beautiful flowers are the produce of hybridized or cross-bred seed. Any one might sow seed of R. ponticum, maximum, catawbiense, &c. and the progeny would, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, be very similar to the parent; but Mr. Moore (very wisely) was anxious to obtain hardy plants with the high and vivid colours of the more tender Indian rhododendrons. How did he purpose to accomplish this? Why, by selecting a *hardy parent* to seed from. This was the North American variety Catawbiense. With great care he applied the farina of R. alta clarense, Smithii, &c. which are not well adapted to our northern climate, but have magnificent flowers. The result is, that he has added to our collections *varieties superior to either of the parents, and perfectly hardy!* It is one of the easiest things in the world

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to hybridize the rhododendron. The stigma, when ready to operate on, has a slightly clammy appearance, and the farina may then be successfully applied. We notice this particularly now, as many of our readers may experiment for themselves, and what may be done in this class of shrubs, may be done with a hundred other things. We have already a beautiful hybrid clematis, called Hybrida, or Hendersonii; and it would well repay the care and trouble, if the splendid Clematis azurea could be fertilized with "the large dark blue."

Honeysuckles afford ample means. Cross the Lonicera Sheppardii, with its splendid scarlet flowers, which are comparatively scentless, with some of the more common sweet-scented varieties: the Red Roman, for instance. A "fragrant scarlet trumpet honeysuckle," produced from a union of the above flowers, would prove a little fortune to an artizan or mechanic; and why cannot he have these two honeysuckles planted to run over his little summer-house? He might then hybridize to his heart's content.

Another might try the clematis previously alluded to. There are scores of other plants which might be improved; and as June is now bursting on us, with abundance of flowers, in all their varied forms, ample opportunity will be afforded for the painstaking and the zealous to do somewhat for themselves and their fellow men. Let no one say that it is difficult. *The difficulty vanishes with the first trial.* And we would advise all who endeavour to obtain new varieties, to seed from the best flowers they can obtain. For instance, the rhododendron Roseum superbum noticed in the early part of this paper, would be what we should choose to seed from, taking Florabundum as the male parent. The first-named possesses form in a pre-eminent degree, whilst the latter would impart colour to the seedlings.

We hope our readers will try what they can do, and we shall be happy at all times to give publicity to the proceeds of their industry and skill.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

ANTIRRHINUMS.

In my last, I mentioned a few antirrhinums which were new and good; I now add a few others, from my memorandums, and as most cultivators keep the new varieties in pots, they will do well to turn out now for autumn blooming.

Rogers's Lady Sale.—A very neat and pretty variety, raised in Staffordshire. The colour is much diversified: the lips are light crimson, whilst the mouth is singularly striped with pale yellow, and the tube is white.

Comte de Paris (Stewart) I liked much, being out of the common run of these flowers. The tube is a lightish buff, inclining to yellow, and has neat scarlet stripes. Very pretty.

Surprise is also good, the flakes of crimson on a white ground render it extremely attractive.

PETUNIAS.

Of petunias I did not see many that took my fancy, for I do not like large and loose flowers, that have petals so weak as to be unable to hold themselves flat. However, as an exception to this, and as a variety peculiarly adapted for bedding out, I have noted

Rogers's King of Crimsons.—The name is very appropriate, the colour being intense, and the form good; and what is a point of great importance, the habit of the plant is unexceptionable.

Harrison's Model I consider good. This also is crimson, of another shade, but it has a most singular and striking contrast in its large white centre; added to which, its form is good, rendering it a very desirable thing.

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I forgot to mention in my last, the following new and superb

CINERARIAS.

Amanda (Henderson).—The disk of this attractive flower is dark, the lower part of the petals white, but the major part blue of a very peculiar shade; the only plant with blue of the same tint, that I could at the moment recollect, and to which, I see by my notes, I compared it, was Torrenia Asiatica, or what is termed *porcelain blue.* It is a splendid variety.

Cleopatra (Henderson).—This is a self, of a deep purple crimson; the petals are short and well-formed, the heads of flowers touched each other, it is a splendid sort for exhibition.

Julia (Henderson).—This was, perhaps, as pretty a variety, take it altogether, as any I saw. The habit of the plant is neat in the extreme, dwarf and compact; the flowers too, individually, were nearly perfect in form, whilst in the aggregate they made splendid heads of bright blue.

Speciosa (Henderson).—Of excellent shape and character; the colour is novel, being a bright rose; a fine sort.

HARDY PLANTS.

In Essex, I saw some first-rate hollyhocks. Amongst a great number, I fancied that many which had been christened, would have been as well nameless; but for six good and distinct varieties, I can recommend the following:—

Queen Victoria—This is a delicate peach bloom, full, and of good form.

Saladin.—Yellow, shaded very beautifully with light scarlet or marone.

Atropurpurea.—Not quite so good in form as some, but desirable for its beautiful colour, which is *nearly* purple.

Coccinea.—A good scarlet. Of this colour I saw several, with other names, very similar, but this was best.

Magnum Bonum.—Deep mahogany-coloured.

Queen of the Peri.—A very splendid white, of extra form.

I recollect some of your readers inquiring about new camellias. Some of the best that I saw during a short visit to the metropolis, this spring, I will

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enumerate. Those who have not seen large specimens of this magnificent conservatory plant, can form but little estimate of their splendour.

Duchess of Northumberland.—This is really a very fine sort; it is a splendidly-formed flower. The ground colour pure white, striped with carmine.

Grandis (Low).—Worthy of its name. It is very large and fine; the colour is pink, with large white spots.

Spiraliter Imbricata, which I thought an odd name, was really, in spite of that, a splendid thing. It is of very excellent form, the petals appearing like so many scarlet shells, imbri cating each other. I call it scarlet, but it was of a peculiarly beautiful shade of that colour. The flowers also were very large.

Aulica (Loddige) was also a gem of the first water. It was white, very neatly veined with crimson. This variety was past its best when I saw it, but it holds a high character.

Fimbriata.—Of this fine, though old sort, I saw large plants, covered with flowers. You allude to it in your last number, and I mention it here, not because it is new and dear, but because it is cheap and splendid. It has the beautiful form of the old Double White, the margins of the petals being finely fringed. It ought to be grown by every one who has room for a camellia.

Duchesse d'Orleans.—A sweet variety, imbricated, of extra form, the ground colour rose, spotted with pink.

TREES AND SHRUBS.

Some of your readers have not heard of the new cypress, which a nurseryman in the neighbourhood of London has obtained from one of the northern provinces of China. I have not seen the seedling plants, but if report speaks truly, it will be a first-rate hardy evergreen. The editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle* states the foliage to be of bright green having the appearance of the Savin, but drooping in a most picturesque manner. It is called the *Funebral Cypress.*

And what will your readers say to the new rhododendrons, which have been discovered growing on trees, in India, like the mistletoe. Dr. Hooker has

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published a book, containing coloured plates of these very interesting novelties, and splendid things they appear to be. They are thus described in the *Gardener's Chronicle*:—

R. Dalhousie, (named, I suppose, in compliment to the Governor-General of India, in the same way as some of your florists name their tulips after some great man) is something quite out of the common line, and will eclipse many of the favourites in this class of flowers. It is stated to have "huge white flowers, tinged with pink, each blossom forming a bell, as much as four inches and a half long, and not less across the mouth. They are, moreover, sweet-scented, having the perfume of the lemon."

R. Falconeri has close heads of pure white flowers, and enormous leaves, netted on the under side with coarse green veins, on a brown ground.

R. Argenteum is only inferior to R. Dalhousie in its flowers, which are pure white, and seems to be far handsomer in its foliage, which is that of the broad-leaved laurel, but much larger, and silvery white beneath; they are described as being from six inches to a foot long, and three to five inches broad, and when young, to be enveloped in large scales, so closely imbricated and so large as to resemble the cones of some species of pine.

The editor very justly remarks, "what a brood rhododendron this would be." And I am sure I look forward with much hope to the period when these splendid plants shall be sold out, that amateurs may have an opportunity of experimenting on them and with them.

I was much pleased, last summer, in visiting a provincial nursery, to see a quantity of cytisuses grafted or budded about four feet high, on laburnum stocks. They appeared to have stood in their then situation, by the side of one of the main paths, some years, and I assure you, they only need to be seen, to be more extensively cultivated. I noted the following, and was informed that they were comparatively new:—

C. Purpurea Stricta, with upright branches and pink flowers.

C. Purpurea Pendula.—Droops more than a willow, with very slender branches.

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C. Incarnata Major.—A very pretty variety, with large pink flowers.

C. Atropurpurea.—Upright in growth, with slender branches, clothed with pink flowers.

C. Alba.—A variety belonging to the preceding section of this family, with white flowers, produced thickly. This I considered the gem of the collection, but was informed that it was not so easily kept as the others.

There were others, with various shades of yellow flowers, but they were all really beautiful, and as small lawn trees, or to plant alternately with standard roses, you cannot recommend them too highly to your readers.

H. S.

FRUITS.

Amongst cherries, WERDER'S EARLY BLACK HEART holds a prominent position. It is of excellent quality, and comes into season about the same time as the Mayduke. In fact, it is one of the earliest "hearts."

On the contrary, TRADESCANT'S BLACK HEART is very late, "*quite at the other end of the season.*" It is large and fine-flavoured.

In pears, COLMAR D'AREMBERG is an extremely prolific variety, and has other requisites, which I think will make it a great favourite, namely, *size, beauty,* and *flavour.* It will be ripe about the middle of December, and is adapted either for wall, standard, or pyramid.

DUCHESSE D'ORLEANS is another pear remarkable for good qualities. It is fit for use the latter end of October. The fruit is rather longer than common, flavour rich, bears well, and is adapted for any situation where the generality of pears succeed.

R. S.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

TWELVE GREENHOUSE ANNUALS.

THESE flower in great perfection, when grown in the greenhouse, during their blooming season, in summer. The seeds should be raised in a warm pit, or on a moderate hotbed, about the middle of March.

1. *Rhodanthe Manglesii.*—Grows from twelve to fifteen inches in height, is much branched, rather erect, and very slender. The flowers are small, of a bright rose, and very neat. It blooms abundantly, remains long in perfection, and is very ornamental. It comes from Swan River.
2. *Brachycome Iberidifolia.*—Grows from nine to twelve inches in height, is much branched, dense, and spreading. The flowers are rather large, of a deep blue in some; in others, nearly white, or light blue. It is very desirable, flowers freely, remains long in perfection, and comes from Swan River.
3. *Portulaca Splendens.*—Grows from nine to twelve inches in height, is rather succulent, much branched and spreading. The flowers are large, of a deep rosy purple, very showy, but not numerous. It remains long in perfection, is very ornamental, and comes from Chili.
4. *Portulaca Thellussonii.*—Grows from nine to twelve inches in height. Like the preceding, it is rather robust and spreading. The flowers are large, of an orange red, conspicuous, but not abundant. It is very desirable on account of its fine colour, and is a native of Chili.
5. *Lobelia Ramosa.*—Grows from twelve to fifteen inches in height, is much branched, spreading, and very slender. The flowers are rather small, of a deep azure blue, produced in great abundance, and continue long in perfection. It is very desirable, and comes from Swan River.
6. *Mesembryanthemum (Tricolor) Pyropæum.*—Grows compactly, in patches, spreading over the ground, and not more than two inches in height. The flowers are rather large, of a deep rosy pink, with a white centre; they are produced in abundance, and continue long in perfection. It is very handsome, and comes from the Cape of Good Hope.
7. *Salpiglossis Atropurpurea.*—Grows from eighteen to twenty-four inches in height, is rather spreading, much branched,

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and slender. The flowers are large and showy, varying from a dark purple to yellowish white, much veined and variegated. It is very desirable, and comes from Chili.

8. *Thunbergia (Alata) Aurantiaca.*—Grows from two and a half to three feet in height, and is a slender climber, requiring a trellis. The flowers are large, of a deep orange, with a dark eye; they are very handsome, and are produced in abundance. It is very desirable, and remains long in bloom.
9. *Thunbergia (Alata) Albiflora,* is another slender climber, growing about three feet in height, and requiring small twigs to support it. The flowers are rather large, and white, with a dark eye. It is very ornamental, and, like the last, from the Mauritius.
10. *Sedum Cæruleum.*—Grows but a few inches in height, is rather spreading, and very slender. The flowers are of an azure blue, very small and numerous. It is one of the prettiest of miniature annuals, and is very suitable for growing in pots. It comes from Tunis.
11. *Martynia Fragrans.*—Grows from two to two feet and a half in height, is very robust, slightly branched, rather inclining to spread. The flowers are large, of a rosy purple, with a yellowish centre; they are not very abundant. It is sweet-scented and showy, but rather naked in appearance. It comes from America.
12. *Trachymene (Didiscus) Cærulea.*—Grows from eighteen to twenty-four inches in height, is slightly branched and erect. The flowers are small, of a bright blue, and are produced in flat umbels. It is very pretty, but the stems are rather naked in appearance. It comes from New South Wales.

Some of these, if planted in a warm sheltered situation, out of doors, in June, will bloom freely, and produce abundance of seed.

Gardener's Chronicle.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF CELERY.

Herewith I take the liberty of handing you six sticks of celery, of a kind which I have grown for the last three years, and which I think, in size, solidity, and flavour, will be found superior to any which has hitherto been cultivated. The specimens sent were not selected, but are merely samples of a general crop, planted without any object in view

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beyond that of a supply for my employer's table, and entirely without thinking of sending any of it for public exhibition. My stock consists of six hundred plants, set in rows, four feet apart, and the plants nine inches apart in the row; and I have not a doubt that the whole crop would average six pounds per stick. Not the least remarkable excellence in this celery is, that it will stand twelve months without running or starting for seed; and such a thing as a pipy or stringy leaf I have never noticed, so long as I have grown it. For a more circumstantial detail of my method of cultivation, I may remark, the seed was sown the first week in February, and as soon as the plants were large enough, they were pricked out in garden soil, rich in vegetable matter, under hand-glasses. The trenches were prepared in the usual manner, in the first week in June, by excavating them nine inches deep, and digging in a good dressing of spent dung from an old mushroom bed. The plants were, of course, strong, when they were planted out; and each was removed to the trench with a good ball of earth adhering to the roots, so that (afterwards receiving a copious watering) they sustained little or no check. In earthing celery, I generally endeavour to steer betwen the two extremes of frequently earthing and earthing only when the plants are full grown, believing that a little earth, after the plants are fully established in the trenches, say a month after planting, promotes the rapid growth of the plants, more especially if they receive a good soaking of weak liquid manure, or soot-water, a day or two before they are earthed. Soot-water is an excellent manure for celery; and where worms and other vermin are troublesome, a little dry soot dashed along the rows will be found a preventive of their ravages. The kitchen garden here being upon a boggy subsoil, and below the level of the river Dart, which passes through the grounds, I do not find it necessary to water the plants more than once or twice, after they are planted out; but in

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more elevated situations, it is almost impossible to give too much water, always, however, preferring to give a thorough soaking once every fortnight, rather than daily dribblings, which, in my opinion, do more harm than good. Were I so disposed, I have no doubt I could grow this celery double the size of that sent; and to effect this, I should prepare plants as before directed, excavate the trenches eighteen inches deep and the same in width, and fill them with a compost consisting of good turfy loam, peat and leaf-mould, or thoroughly decomposed cow dung, in about equal quantities. Very rich dung is not good for celery, and strong manure-water should also be avoided. To grow large celery it would be necessary to place the plants eighteen inches apart in the row; and the ground should be kept constantly stirred about the plants, taking care, however, to prevent the soil getting into the hearts, during the operation. In a late number of the *Journal of the Horticultural Society*, I perceive Mr. Errington attributes the coarse and bad quality of the large celery grown for market, to the luxuriance of its growth. Here I venture to assert he is wrong. The bad quality of the celery is attributable to the bad kinds grown; as I am sure no person could grow this kind of celery, which has been named "Cole's Superb Red," so as to make it either pipy or stringy, or inferior in flavour. Late earthing has more to do with making celery stringy, than anything else, as it is quite certain, that if the leaves of celery are exposed to full light and dry air for a length of time, the tissue will become harder than if the leaves were grown in comparative darkness. We need no stronger proof of this than the acrid flavour of the outer as compared with the inner leaves of the same celery, a fact, demonstrating that if the leaves are exposed for a long time, they acquire an acrid flavour which no blanching can wholly remove.

For an early crop of celery, I sow in heat, early in January, and prick the plants out upon a slight hot-

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bed; for a second crop, in February, in heat, as above directed; and for a late crop, in March, in the open ground.

[This communication, which was read at the meeting of the Horticultural Society, December 5, 1848, by W. Cole, gardener to H. Colyer, Esq. Dartford, accompanied some very fine red celery, to which a certificate was awarded.]

TWENTY-FOUR BEST PINKS, the names contributed to the editor of the *Florist*, by ten extensive growers, and nine out of the ten being south country growers. From this list, we certainly think the tastes of north and south are fast assimilating. Those which are at the commencement are esteemed most by the various cultivators:—Maclean's Criterion; Smith's Diana, light red lace; Ward's Great Britain, red lace; Kerr's Harriet, red; Kirtland's Lord Valentia, dark lace; Smith's Whipper-in, rosy purple; Costar's Alfred Morrison, purple; Garratt's Alpha, red; Kirtland's Gaylad, purple; Harris's King of Purples, purple; Creed's President, purple; Hall's Queen of England, purple; Looker's Duchess of Marlborough, rose; Bragg's George Glenny, purple; Hodge's Melona, light red; Willmer's Laura, purple; Smith's Princess Royal, purple; Henbury's Rubens, dark; Church's Rosanna, purple; Kirtland's Beatrice; Hodge's Gem, rose; Norman's Henry Steers, purple; Turner's Masterpiece, light red; Kirtland's Prince Albert, dark red.

POTATOES FOR SEED.—Those persons in this part of Lancashire who plant early potatoes, for market, in the open ground, to come in about the 22nd of May, only offer the large ones in the market, reserving the small ones for seed, the following year, which is found to answer remarkably well. When taken up with the large potatoes, the small ones are placed upon the surface of the ground, and there they

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remain till they become quite green and hard. They are then gathered and stored, so that they may be much sprouted before they are planted the following spring, which is of great importance in making them much earlier. Very likely if these small potatoes had, in some soils, remained till July, they would have been affected by the disease; and I have no doubt but that large quantities might have been saved, when attacked, if they had been taken up as soon as there was any appearance of the disease amongst them. It is a great mistake to suppose that potatoes will not keep, if taken up before they are ripe. I have proved, for the last three years, that they *will* keep, even if taken up when but a quarter ripe. Strange as this may appear to some, it is a fact; and as a proof, I enclose a paring, by which you will see that the potato was not ripe when taken up, but still, up to the present time, it has kept as well as if it had been perfectly ripe. This is a matter which is deserving of being made known at the present time, and therefore you will, perhaps, allow it a place in your next, that the plan may be put to the test in other parts, as well as in Lancashire.—M. SAUL, *Garstang*, *May* 1, 1849.

A SPEEDY WAY OF RAISING RHODODENDRONS FROM SEED.—These are a splendid class of evergreens, the majority very hardy, and admirably adapted for planting in shady situations. At Oxenford Castle, Mr. Gardiner raises them in great quantity. The seed is very minute. This he sows in February, and places in a hotbed. The plants are up in April. They are then kept moist and warm, and shaded from bright sunlight. When two inches high, they are thinned, and again subjected to the same close, warm treatment, allowing them to gradually dry off and harden, before winter. The same mode is adopted the following spring, and by this means, in two years, plants are obtained from eight to twelve inches high.—*Gardener's Journal.*

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RETROSPECTIVE CRITICISM.

I AM particularly obliged to Mr. H. Goldham, for his notice of my report on a few of Dr. Sanders's tulips. I esteem it a favour in setting me right. Knowing that Mr. G. and Dr. S. had each broken a flower from the same breeder, and both alike, it occurred to me that Mr. G.'s was named "Napoleon."

I like common sense, and should not have committed the mistake had I known the Napoleon to be a *byblœmen*. I certainly did wrong in mentioning the name, yet I think my manuscript to you ran thus, "Mr. G. has broken one, *and, I believe,* named it Napoleon." If such is the fact, the three words in italics would imply doubt. When I received your No. 26, that omission struck me. Perhaps I made a clerical error, leaving out the three words alluded to, but they are in my rough copy.

No one conversant with the cultivation of tulips, would for a moment suppose I meant that a byblœmen and a bizarre were broken from a bizarre breeder.

J. DAVIDSON.

Part III.

REVIEWS.

THE FLORIST.

THE illustrations of the present number are, *Plumbago Larpentæ*, a beautiful blue bedding plant, and two heartseases. The papers are, as usual, varied and interesting. The Properties of a good Cineraria, Japan Lilies, Budding Roses, and a singular paper on

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the Bear's Ear, or Auricula, copied from a manuscript, dated 1732. The florists of the present day will be surprised to learn, that "flake, or striped," and "bizarre auriculas," were much prized in those days; but it is evidently written by a foreigner, as he says, at page 139, "The new kind of bizarres are either raised in England, or from seeds brought from thence." Now we know that Continental growers prize fanciful and singular colours much more than we do, even if form, &c. is sacrificed.

Lawn Trees, is a useful interesting paper; and amongst others, a new one is mentioned, namely, the *Double Fruit-bearing Almond* (Amygdalus communis flore pleno). Most people admire the early-flowering single variety, from its precocity, as well as the delicate tint and profusion of its flowers. The double one, we are certain, must be a valuable addition, blooming as it does, when all out-door flowers are an acquisition.

We are glad to find this excellently-conducted periodical enjoys the popularity which it well deserves.

The Historic Times.

We are again favoured with a copy of this excellent weekly illustrated publication, one feature of which we particularly admire, namely, the illustrations of natural history and botany, given on the last page. The embellishments are good, and the subject matter always well chosen. Every number is replete with information of the best kind.

Catalogue of Plants cultivated in the Sheffield Botanic Garden. By Mr. J. Law, the Curator.

This neat and useful publication is extremely well got up, and is embellished with a view of the garden.

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Much credit is due to our friend Mr. Law, for the popular and attractive manner in which he has illustrated his work.

To many people, a mere catalogue of plants presents but few attractive features; but Mr. Law has interspersed throughout his book so many interesting anecdotes, that it cannot fail to be amusing, as well as instructive, to every class of visiters.

The Sheffield Botanic Garden owes much of its present prosperity to the talent and untiring zeal of Mr. Law.

QUERIES.

Is there any climbing plant, combining the following properties, suitable for training on the front wall of a dwelling-house, viz. evergreen, ornamental, and fragrant? F., or Y.

Would you oblige me with an answer, in your next, to the following questions? if not deemed too trivial:—When is the best time to insert buds into common brier stocks? What are the necessary conditions to be secured in order to ensure success? Such as, state of the shoot from which the bud is taken, state and treatment of the stock. The stocks were planted last winter. Will any class of roses succeed on such stocks? or which are the best? Would they make shoots this season, if budded as soon as practicable? Tyro.

Two years ago. I purchased a polyanthus, under the name of Buck's George IV. which I have supposed was that variety, until undeceived by Mr. S. Hammond's description of the flower, in the February number of the *Midland Florist*. I have again purchased his majesty, the bloom of which answers to that description, except in one point. Mr. H. says, "round eye." Am I to understand a round eye, in the polyanthus, to preserve the unbroken line of a circle, or a circle composed of five or six contiguous semicircles? for such is the flower sold to me as Buck's George IV.

Rasen. Dera.

Will W. D., of Cheltenham, say whether the saccharine juices of the rhubarb possess a self-fermenting principle, or is the agency of yeast requisite for fermentation? Dera.

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What is your experience of tank heating? and what description of tank do you consider best? A reply in your next will oblige yours, R. M.

[We have a small brick tank, on arches, which answers remarkably well. It is very solidly built, and well-lined with cement. It has been in operation two years. Still, where one erected in this way answers, half a-dozen will leak; we therefore think a wooden or cast iron tank, though most expensive at first, the cheapest. R. M. will find it especially useful for striking cuttings of dahlias, verbenas, salvias, and all bedding plants; also for raising seeds, growing cucumbers and melons; in fact, there is no end to its utility, without having the trouble of using manure, tan, &c.]

Will you kindly inform me how to propagate the Gardenia, or Cape Jasmine? I have a small plant of the new variety, Gardenia Fortunii, which I shall be glad to know how to increase. S. S.

[The best way is to take cuttings of the young wood, plant them round the side of a small pot, and plunge in bottom heat. It will be advisable to cover with a small bell glass. Our correspondent will be amply repaid for any attention she may bestow on her beautiful plant.]

How am I to kill red spiders, which have attacked my cucumber plants, and what is the cause? R. S.

[Dry heat is extremely congenial to the habits of this pestiferous insect. For your small cucumber house, you had better get quick lime and flowers of sulphur, mix up as a wash, and with it dress the flues over. Had you grown your cucumbers in a small house heated by a tank, this disaster could scarcely have happened.]

Will you, in your next number, tell me of the best grass seeds for a small lawn? I have tried very many, but have not yet succeeded in getting a turf fit to be seen.
Birmingham. W. M.

[White clover is requisite, and is commonly used for this purpose; but if you can obtain sheep's fescue grass *(Festuca ovina)*, and mix an equal quantity with the white clover, we think you will succeed.]

Is Salvator Rosa tulip a very fine flower? and ought I to give twenty shillings for it? A Beginner.

[Salvator Rosa tulip is a splendid sort, when in character; but we would advise "A Beginner" to take a good judge with him, and ascertain the correctness of the flower; for we do not imagine a fine strain of Salvator can be got for anything like the money, and a bad one we would not advise our correspondent to be troubled with.]

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I have many young apple trees, planted out for bearing, in orchards. This spring I perceive them to be much infested with the American blight, and am consequently alarmed for the safety of my trees. Can you inform me how to destroy the blight, or stay its progress?

Gloucester. JAMES RICHARDS.

[Soot and train oil, rubbed into the crevices with a hard brush, we know has destroyed these insects. Perhaps a more simple and pleasant remedy would be to make some *thin glue*, and with an old stiff paint brush apply it to the parts affected. By this means the insects would be unable to move, and would die, whilst the glue would, in course of time, peel off; but, as in every other case where success is desired, *perseverance* must be the motto.]

Can you, in an early number, give me some hints for inarching trees? I can graft apples, pears, plums, &c. with success. I have tried oaks, beech, and some others, for several years, and am unable to succeed. I understand these are done by "grafting by approach," or inarching. I only try these things for amusement; but as there are many of your readers, who, like myself, have great pleasure in experimenting, I trust you will afford the required information, and oblige yours, &c.

AN AMATEUR.

[We will prepare a paper on this subject, before the period for inarching arrives.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AURICULAS.—In reply to R. S., who asks the names of a few good auriculas, we have seen the following, this season, very fine, and can strongly recommend them:—

Kenyon's Ringleader.—Grey-edged, an old variety but good.

Oliver's Lovely Ann.—Grey-edged, trusses remarkably well, very handsome.

Lee's Colonel Taylor.—Green-edged, a very clean and beautiful variety, rather difficult to keep, consequently scarce.

Page's Champion.—A fine green-edge.

Taylor's Glory.—White-edged, an old variety, but good.

Lee's Venus.—Also old and easily procurable, constant, but not quite so good as the preceding.

Having noticed in the last *Midland Florist*, that a correspondent wishes to know how to treat his vinegar plant, I have pleasure in communicating the following information, which I

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have obtained from one of our workmen, who has possessed a plant for several months. Whether his mode of treatment is really the best, I cannot say, but the plant keeps multiplying, and produces vinegar of an agreeable acidity, which would, no doubt, become more of the character of ordinary vinegar, if allowed to remain longer with the plant; as that which I have tasted had too much of the saccharine left, having the taste of vinegar and sugar. Provide a clean glazed earthen vessel, about twelve inches diameter, three quarts of soft clean water, half a pound of raw sugar, and a quarter of a pound of treacle. Put the two last articles to one quart of the water in a boiling state, and when the sugar, &c. is thoroughly dissolved, add the remaining two quarts of water; put the plant into this liquor, when about the temperature of new milk, and deposit it in a moderately warm place (our man kept his in a closet, near the kitchen fire), protected from dust, &c. by a sheet of paper, or other covering. It must not be disturbed for six weeks at least, by which time, or two or three weeks longer, the vinegar, or liquor, is ready for use, and a new plant will be formed. After three new plants are formed, the old one dies. I am now trying a young plant in the vinery, and shall be glad to give any further information that may be worth communicating. As this singular vegetable tissue appears to have scarcely any of the characteristics common to that large section of creation to which it seems to belong, it will be particularly interesting to me, and no doubt to many others, if its botanic name, the classification in which it ranks, a sketch of its history, &c. were given in the pages of thy useful little work.

York. CALEB FLETCHER, JUN.

Permit me just to give an opinion respecting the cause of W. D.'s camellias being in so unhealthy a state. If the spots are small, numerous, black, and confined to the young leaves just expanding, it is most likely the punture of a small insect, the thrip, the eggs, or larvæ, of which are deposited in the bud, the previous summer. But if the leaves are what is commonly termed variegated (green, with yellow blotches), this may be produced by various causes, some sorts being much more subject to it than others. One of ours (Rosa mundi) exhibits this singular appearance very curiously; some of the leaves are exactly half of a very rich deep green, and the other half of a clear pale yellow, as distinct and clearly defined as if painted. The plant grows freely, and looks healthy. Last year, we had the soil shaken from the root, and the plant repotted in fresh loam, but it still retains this peculiarity. A sour soddened state of the soil is likely to produce this effect. F., or Y.

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LINNÆUS AND MITCHELL'S ROYAL ALBERT RHUBARB.—G.D.—In reply, we can only say, that if our correspondent has had six roots—three from Mr. Mitchell's agent, and three from a respectable nurseryman—under the above designation, and that he finds them all alike, it is evident there is a great mistake somewhere, the varieties being widely different. Albert is the earliest, whilst Linnæus is most productive. In consequence of Mr. Mitchell's description of his rhubarb (page 27. vol. 1), we were induced to buy twelve roots of his agent, for which, though we were in the trade, we paid five shillings per root. We were so far disappointed, that the succeding spring, we sold the same agent the roots again, at 1s. each. We do not think Albert well suited for the northern counties; independent of which, it soon runs to seed.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JUNE.

FLOWER GARDEN.

THIS will be a busy time in putting out half hardy and other plants, for summer decoration. No opportunity should be lost, and those things which have been kept in pots, such as *calceolarias* (the shrubby yellow ones are best for this purpose), *verbenas*, *anagallises*, *lobelias* (Ignea, Splendens, Williamsii, &c.), *petunias* (the dark crimsons are most proper), *scarlet geraniums*, &c. give the amateur abundance of choice, both for colour and arrangement. Then what a number of good summer climbing plants there are. The various *ipomeas* or *convolvoluses*, the *canary plant* (Tropæolum canariense), *maurandias* (purple, scarlet, and white), *Rhodochiton volubile*, *lothospermums*, *Eccremocarpos scaber*, and many more, with equally beautiful flowers and equally singular names. To those of our readers who do not admire climbers of this sort, but who look more to the useful, we would recommend the *vegetable marrow*, or even *pumpkins*. We recollect an old friend of ours who used to patronise this latter plant, and a most astonishing *climber* he made of it; for after training the vine or shoots over two sides of his house, he introduced one into his kitchen, and nailed it to a beam, which went across the house, and even here it produced *pumpkins* as large as his head, whilst outside the house the crop was astonishing. We offer this to the notice of those of our readers who keep a pig, as they may train one of these

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plants almost anywhere, and the produce will be useful, and we believe they will come into general use for this purpose.

Amongst fine plants for summer flowering, we may mention the *fuchsia*. Strong old varieties may be turned out, and thus room will be made in the artizan's window for one of the improved varieties. *Balsams* too, when properly managed, make first-rate specimens: they require a very rich soil and a warm situation.

Chrysanthemums should be put out against a warm wall or paling, and the extreme points of the shoots pinched off.

Annuals of every description will require thinning, and the soil amongst them occasionally stirring. It is really astonishing what a little attention will do in these matters. Many persons sow them and seldom give them any more attention; the consequence is, that the plants smother each other, and their beauty is much spoiled.

Bulbs of *early tulips, hyacinths*, &c. should be taken up as their foliage decays, and their places occupied by some of the plants above named, or transplanted *annuals, ten-week stocks, African marigolds*, and plants of similar character.

Dahlias will require considerable attention. Take care that the plants are not galled by the fastenings; encourage them with liquid manure; lay traps for earwigs, the sooner their destruction is commenced the more likely are the flowers to escape; tie the side branches as they form, to other sticks, and train the plants regularly and well.

Carnations and Picotees.—Those cultivated in pots will require particular attention, as to watering, tying, &c. during this month.

Pansies.—Make cuttings, and strike them in a shady border, under a hand-glass. Sow seed, and as last year's seedlings flower, pull up all that are not improvements on existing sorts. They will require a considerable quantity of watering and regular attention.

Pinks.—These favourite flowers bloom during this month. Pipings may be taken, and struck in the shade. The advice given above, as to seedling pansies, may also be adopted here.

Ranunculuses will also flower this month. Attend to impregnation, or cross-breeding, where fine seed is desired. If the weather is very hot, we would recommend some rotten cow dung as a top-dressing, between the rows, which will save much watering.

Biennials may be planted out, and cuttings of many half hardy things made.

Roses.—Standards must have all the shoots up the stems carefully removed as they appear. We would also recommend, for young trees, which were budded last August, that a stick, eighteen inches long, should be fastened to the main stem, in *two places*, with about nine inches rising above the bud. This will be useful to tie the young shoot to, otherwise it is very

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liable to be blown out. Towards the latter end of the month, Chinese and other roses may be budded, when the shoots are sufficiently strong.

FRUIT GARDEN.

As the shoots of grafted plants get sufficiently long, remove the clays in wet weather. Destroy the mealy bug, or American blight, by rubbing with a hard brush.

Shorten the shoots of *currant trees*, by nipping off the ends; and in fact, either wall or other trees may be much easier regulated now than in the autumn, simply by removing the young shoots which are in the way, or are awkwardly placed.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

In the early part of the month, *tomatoes*, *cucumbers*, *vegetable marrows*, and even *melons* may be planted out; the first under a south wall, the other three on raised beds, composed of weeds, or manure, or both mixed, as the amateur or cottager can obtain them.

All crops should be well hand-hoed and thinned; particularly *onions*, *carrots*, *parsnips*, *red beet*, and whatever else is sown in drills.

Plant out spring-sown *cauliflowers*, and transplant Willcove, Mammoth, and other *cauliflower broccoli*, *Brussels sprouts*, &c.

Celery.—Plant out in trenches a few of Jones's variety, a sort much esteemed in this part of the world. Let the soil, or compost, at the bottom of the trench, be rich, and make the trench in the dampest part of the garden.

All varieties of *lettuce*, *turnip radish*, *black Spanish radish*, *cress*, &c. may be sown as required.

Put sticks to *scarlet runners*, and hoe well between advancing crops of *beans*, *peas*, &c.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

SOUTH LONDON FLORISTS.

A FEW RUNNING NOTES ON THEIR FIRST EXHIBITION.

BY AN OLD FLORIST.

The show, on Wednesday, April 18, was exceedingly good, but there were two or three remarkable features. Among the plants, all the exhibiters had twisted and distorted their Hovea celei, to keep them, to all appearance, dwarf, and they were most ugly and monstrous. It is time judges saw to this. The auriculas were well grown, but had evidently suffered the last few days, by the change of weather, which cramped many of them. Dickson, of Acre-lane, had two certificates of merit—one for Sir C. Napier, a very nicely marked variety, black and green, and with all the advantages of a good eye and paste, and equal division of ground colour and margin; the other a cross between Colonel Taylor

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and Freedom, exhibiting the mixed characteristics of both flowers. A self, shown by Mr. Franklin, had a certificate of merit, although it had been shown the evening before, at the meeting of the Society for the Encouragement of Floriculture and Horticulture, and was there unsuccessful. Polyanthuses were very bad indeed. Some plants from Lancashire gave a very unfavourable impression of the flower. They had evidently been potted up for the occasion, and the flagging of the footstalks opened the trusses enough to disqualify them altogether; still they had the prize. Several seedlings were exhibited, but of so small a size as to be totally useless; and one, named Conqueror, had a certificate, although thousands better have been thrown to the rubbish heap. Among the cinerarias, there were some remarkable flowers, which richly deserved certificates of merit, but only a portion had them Carlotte Grist, white, tipped with blue, deserved a certificate and had it. Mademoiselle Rosalie, still more beautiful, and of splendid habit, had no certificate. Richard Cobden, a fine close blue flower, well deserved the certificate it had. Abdaleraman and Pauline, though not so good, both had them awarded. One-in-the-Ring, Modesta, Alba purpurea, and Perode, had certificates of merit, although they were far from desirable varieties, and not so good as many we already have in cultivation. Adele Villiers was a shade better, but not first-rate by any means, although in the shower of certificates it came in for a first-class. A fine little plant, called Lilac Perfection, with a splendid head of flowers, was overlooked, though it richly merited a certificate. Of the old flowers that were there in collection, the very best was Cerito. The best pansies in the room were Offa, Duchess of Rutland, Colliston, Miss Edwards, Mary Jane, Climax; Thompson's Rainbow, Privateer, and Polyphemus, the latter a very splendid yellow; Duke of Norfolk, a grand flower; Duke of Richmond, Duchess of Norfolk, Zabdi, Charmer, Supreme, and Hero of Bucks. There was a China plant, called Dyleatra spectabilis, with singular heart-shaped flowers, unlike anything that has previously been seen. A plant of Gesneria purpurea macrantha, was shown. It seems the largest of the family, and the flowers are as coarse as scarlet flannel. Rhododendron punctata, a straggling seedling, nevertheless showed a handsome truss of rich crimson rose and dark spots. The best named auriculas exhibited, were Page's Champion, Kenyon's Ringleader, Conqueror of Europe, Ne plus ultra, Stretch's Alexander, Dickson's Duke of Cambridge, Taylor's Glory; and the best self was Headley's Royal Purple. The plants were superb. Mr. Bruce carried off the silver cup, for the best eighteen stove and greenhouse plants; and except an Hovea celsi, which was most abominably shown, that is to say, bent down and distorted in all manner of ways, to make it appear dwarf, they were all noble specimens, comprising three varieties of azalea, several ericas, Ixora coccinnea, and the usual popular plants. There were several other collections, each with its frightfully distorted Hovea celsi; and we must say, that we think it a great stretch of liberality to allow such unnatural training for so beautiful a plant. It is a practice originating among the Bromley growers, and displays more ingenuity as a mechanic, than skill as a gardener. The plant may be grown dwarf, without any such ungardenerlike trickery, and we really do not think the judges do their duty, when they pass such unnaturally-grown plants, instead of rebuking the growers, by throwing them out. The art of growing Hovea celsi consists in skilfully keeping the plant dwarf and handsome; and if those who cannot do this are allowed to bend and distort the branches of a tall specimen, pegging and tying it in different places, until it has but the one point accomplished—the appearance of dwarfness—farewell to gardening as a science. Mr. Bruce's Hovea was a disgrace to a collection otherwise unique; and two other collections, with well grown plants, had Hoveas worse than his. Mr. Bruce deserved the cup for his other plants; but if societies mean to allow exhibiters to change the entire nature of plants, by distortion, they had better never give prizes at all. There was a collection of variegated plants, without bloom, that seemed to interest the visiters greatly. The stand of pansies shown by Mr. Turner, of Slough, was the grand attraction. There was no approaching them without great difficulty and the exercise of much patience, from the time the doors were opened to the close of the exhibition.

LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

April 20, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, City.

The silver cup, presented by Mr. James Dickson, was won by W. S. Ginger, Esq. with the following flowers:—Page's Champion, Kenyon's Ringleader, Taylor's Glory, and Dickson's Apollo.

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Green-edged (Amateurs).
1 Dickson's Duke of Wellington, W. S. Ginger.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Stretch's Alexander, J. Mosley, Esq.
Grey-edged.
1 Dickson's Matilda, J. Mosley, Esq.
Selfs.
1 Dickson's Apollo, J. Mosley, Esq.
Green-edged (Dealers).
1 Page's Champion, James Dickson.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Dickson's Duke of Wellington, ditto.

Grey-edged.
1 Dickson's Matilda, J. Dickson.
2 Kenyon's Ringleader, ditto.
3 Oliver's Lovely Ann, ditto.
White-edged.
1 Taylor's Glory, J. Dickson.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Ditto, Dr. Bushell.
Selfs.
1 Barker's Nonsuch (a Derbyshire flower), J. Dickson.
2 Perry's Lord Primate, ditto.
3 Chapman's True Blue, ditto.

DUKE OF LANCASTER FLORAL SOCIETY.

April 23, at the house of John Moreton, John O'Gaunt Inn, Rothwell Haigh, near Leeds.

The best pan of four auriculas, Wm. Chadwick, Oliver's Lovely Ann, Grimes's Privateer, Lord of Hallamshire, and Blue Bonnet; 2d pan, J. Gill, Standard of England, Fletcher's Mary Ann, Dean's Regulator, and Kenyon's Freedom.

Premier bloom, Oliver's Lovely Ann, W. Chadwick.

Green-edged.
1 Oliver's Lovely Ann, W Chadwick.
2 Lady Ann Wilbraham, J. Tryer.
3 Warris's Union, J. Gill.
4 Howard's Nelson, W. Chadwick.
5 Standard of England, J. Gill.
6 Rider's Waterloo, B. Ely and Son.
Grey-edged.
1 Grimes's Privateer, W. Chadwick.
2 Fletcher's Mary Ann, J. Gill.
3 Kent's Victoria, W. Chadwick.
4 Warris's Union, J. Gill.
5 Conqueror of Europe, W. Chadwick.
6 Ringleader, J. Fryer.
White-edged.
1 Lord of Hallamshire, W. Chadwick.
2 Lee's Bright Venus, J. Fryer.
3 Dean's Regulator, J. Gill.
4 Taylor's Glory, B. Ely and Son
5 Ashworth's Rule-all, W. Chadwick.
6 Taylor's Incomparable, J. Gill.
Selfs.
1 Kenyon's Freedom, J Gill.
2 'Squire Mundy. ditto.
3 Blue Bonnet, W. Chadwick.
4 Oddy's Rest, John Fryer.
5 Lord Lee, W. Chadwick.
6 Grand Turk, ditto.
Alpines.
1 Conspicua, J. Gill.
2 Fair Ellen, W. Chadwick.
3 Seedling, B. Ely and Son.
4 Fair Rosamond, J. Fryer.
5 Seedling, B. Ely and Son.
6 Ditto ditto.

POLYANTHUSES.
Dark Ground.
1 Sovereign, J. Fryer.
2 Lord Rancliffe, J. Gill.
3 Seedling, B Ely and Son.
4 Alexander, J. Gill.
5 Seedling, W. Chadwick.
6 Unknown, J. Fryer.
Red Ground.
1 Bullock's Lancer, J. Fryer.
2 Buck's George IV., B. Ely and Son.
3 Cox's Regent, J. Fryer.
4 Britannia, J. Gill.
5 Sir J. Hobhouse, B. Ely and Son.
6 Seedling ditto.

NORTHAMPTON FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL MEETING,

George Hotel, April 25.

Best pan of auriculas, consisting of the following:—Taylor's Glory, Lee's Col. Taylor, Parker's Metropolitan, Page's Champion, Barringer's Champion, Kenyon's Ringleader, Netherwood's Othello, and Oliver's Lovely Ann, to Mr. J. Rabbit, gardener to H. Stewart, Esq.

Second prize was awarded to Mr. B. Vialls, for Barker's Nonsuch, Booth's Freedom, Kent's Queen Victoria, Berry's Lord Primate, Taylor's Ploughboy, Lightbody's Star of Bethlehem, Cheetham's Countess of Wilton, and Aston's Bonny Lass.

First prize of four, Heye's Lovely Ann, Kay's Jupiter, Taylor's Incomparable, and Stretch's Alexander, Mr. B. Vialls.

First pan of polyanthuses, was gained by Mr. Rabbit, with Buck's George IV. Yorkshire Regent, Collier's Princess Royal, and Pearson's Alexander.

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AURICULA SHOW,

At Mr. Wm. Clegg's, Golden Ball Inn, Saturday, April 28.

Premier prize, Kenyon's Ringleader, J. Moore.

Green-edged.

1 Imperator, J. Moore.
2 Lee's Col. Taylor, ditto.
3 Booth's Freedom, W. Faulkner.
4 Pollitt's Highland Boy, J. Moore.
5 Lady Ann Wilbraham, T. Wood.
6 Ruler of England, J. Moore.

Grey-edged.

1 Kenyon's Ringleader, J. Moore.
2 Mary Ann, ditto.
3 Oliver's Lovely Ann, T. Wood.
4 Taylor's Ploughboy, J. Moore.
5 Grimes's Privateer, T. Wood.
6 Hodges's Victory, J. Whitehead.

White-edged.

1 Leigh's Venus, T. Wood.
2 Ashworth's Regular, W. Faulkner.
3 Taylor's Glory, J. Warren.
4 Chancellor, T. Wood.
5 Lord of Hallamshire, W. Faulkner.
6 Hughes's Pillar of Beauty, T. Wood.

Selfs.

1 Apollo, J. Moore.
2 Blue Bonnet, J. Whitehead.
3 Bury's Lord Primate, T. Wood.
4 Lord Lee, J. Moore.
5 Gorton's Stadtholder, T. Wood.
6 Prince of Orange, ditto.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Lord John Russell, J. Moore.
2 Beauty of England, ditto.
3 Cheshire Favourite, T. Wood.
4 George IV., J. Moore.
5 Alexander, T. Wood.
6 Prince of Orange, ditto.

JUDGES.—Messrs. E. Fallows, J. Clegg, and R. Lancashire, of Middleton.

THE LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY

Held their annual exhibition of auriculas at the house of Mr. Wm. Dobbings, Golden Cock Inn, Kirk-gate, Leeds, on Monday, April 30th. The judges, Mr. Jonathan Jackson, Deighton, near Huddersfield; Mr. W. Dobbings and Mr. Joseph Barstow, Leeds, awarded the prizes as follows:—

First pan, Mr. W. Chadwick, Oliver's Lovely Ann, Fletcher's Mary Ann, Taylor's Favourite, and Netherwood's Othello.

Second pan, Mr. J. Fryer, Oliver's Lovely Ann, Sykes's Complete, Lee's Bright Venus, Netherwood's Othello.

Third pan, J. Bramma, Imperator, Lee's Bright Venus, Sykes's Complete, Whittaker's True Blue.

Green-edged.

1 Lovely Ann, J. Fryer.
2 Lady Ann Wilbraham, W. Chadwick.
3 Pollock's Standard, Isaac Bailey.
4 Rider's Waterloo, W. Chadwick.
5 Imperator, J. Fryer.
6 Robin Hood, W. Chadwick.

Grey edged.

1 Fletcher's Mary Ann, W. Chadwick.
2 Sykes's Complete, J. Bramma.
3 Ringleader, J. Fryer.
4 Grime's Privateer, W. Chadwick.
5 Conqueror of Europe, J. Fryer.
6 Oliver's Lovely Ann, ditto.

White-edged.

1 Lee's Bright Venus, J. Bramma.
2 Catherine, J. Bailey.
3 Taylor's Glory, W. Chadwick.
4 Lord of Hallamshire, ditto.
5 Potts's Regulator, ditto.
6 Ashworth's Rule-all, ditto.

Selfs.

1 Netherwood's Othello, W. Chadwick.
2 Blue Bonnet, ditto.
3 Flora's Flag, J. Bailey.
4 Oddy's Rest, ditto.
5 Lord Lee, W. Chadwick.
6 Sable Rex, ditto.

Alpines.

1 Fair Rosamond, W. Chadwick.
2 Fair Ellen, J. Bramma.
3 Queen of the Alps, W. Chadwick,
4 Barstow's Seedling, J. Bramma.
5 Seedling, J. Fryer.
6 Ditto, J. Bramma.

POLYANTHUSES.

Premier bloom, Fletcher's Mary Ann, W. Chadwick.

Red Ground.

1 Bullock's Lancer, J. Bailey.
2 Cox's Regent, ditto.
3 Seedling, J. Bramma.
4 Ditto, ditto.
5 Ditto, ditto.
6 Ditto, ditto.

Dark Ground.

1 Crownshaw's Exile, J. Bailey.
2 Alexander, ditto.
3 Beauty of England, ditto.
4 Sovereign, J. Fryer.
5 Lord Rancliffe, W. Chadwick.
6 Cheshire Favourite, J. Fryer.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE ANTIRRHINUM.

BY B. KNIGHT, FLORIST, ETC. TIVOLI, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.

THIS plant is a native of Britain, its usual habitat being the walls of old castles and similar places. The species which is the parent of the beautiful varieties we now possess, is by botanists called *Antirrhinum majus*, and is found wild plentifully in East Sussex. In its uncultivated state, it is naturally a sportive plant, for there are to be found in its haunts many sorts, varying much in colour, light and dark purple, white, yellow, and others variously striped, some of them very beautiful.

Although this plant has sported from seed into numerous varieties, it is only within the last few years that it has been taken in hand by skilful and persevering florists, for the purpose of improvement; and in the short time that it has been cultivated for that purpose, it has amply rewarded the cultivator with many fine and desirable varieties, well deserving a place in every flower garden.

This plant is worthy of more extensive culture, as it is quite hardy, and will grow in almost any soil and situation. There are few more accommodating plants. It is profuse in its flowers, from June till the frosts of winter set in; and the many varieties that we have, of almost every shade of colour, should be a stimulus to its extended culture. Being dwarf in growth, it makes a good bedding plant, and for this purpose there are but few that will beat it, or that require so little attention.

According to my experience, the following is the best method of cultivating them:—Fork over the

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beds in which they are to be planted early in spring, adding to them a good portion of rotten manure, which should be thoroughly mixed with the soil. In April, May, or June, set healthy young plants. Those planted in April will begin to bloom in June and July, and the others in succession, and will continue till frost sets in. Place them in the beds about fifteen inches apart each way, and pinch off the tops, to cause them to grow bushy. All the attention they will then require is watering in dry weather, and the flower stalks cutting off as the flowers drop, to prevent them running to seed, which would exhaust the plants, and spoil the late blooms.

They flower best from young plants. The over year plants are of little use the second season. For early bloom, a bed should be made in September, with young plants, and all flower buds that appear should be cut off, to make them strong and bushy, and enable them to stand the winter. These will begin to flower early in spring, and will continue a long time in perfection, if not allowed to seed.

To propagate this plant, take off some of the small side shoots, about two or three inches in length, and set them in sand, under a hand glass, in a shady place; attend to watering, that they may not get dry, and they will soon root, and make good plants.

The month of August is a good time to raise them from seed. Sow on a warm border, in fine light soil. They will soon make their appearance, and when large enough, should be planted out in beds, and treated like the other plants. They will all flower the following season. They also succeed well sown in shallow pans, in spring, in a cold frame, where they will soon make plants fit to set out, and will flower in the autumn.

This plant will do tolerably well in pots. For that purpose, use a light rich soil, composed of equal parts of light loam, old rotten manure, and sand, well mixed together. In potting the plants, be careful to give them good drainage. They bloom

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freely in eight-inch pots. They should be topped two or three times, to make them bushy. The best situation for the pots is a south-east aspect. They should not be placed either in the frame or greenhouse, as the plants will only thrive in the open air; when confined, they draw up weakly, and produce but few flowers. If these directions are attended to, success will be ensured.

AN EASY METHOD OF SPEEDILY ASCERTAINING THE QUALITY OF SEEDLING FRUIT TREES.

BY H. S. M.

I HAVE for years been impressed with the necessity of adopting some plan whereby the merits of seedling fruit trees could be speedily tested. My attention was drawn to this by seeing, at various periods of my life, the experimental grounds of amateurs become so crowded and overgrown with seedling apples, pears, plums, gooseberries, and even hardy grape vines, as to render them complete thickets, before the trees showed any fruit at all; thereby causing much waste of land, and at the same time giving the seedlings but little chance of proving their true character, even when they did bear, from the exhaustion of the soil, as well as the crowded state of its occupants.

Now I well know that there are hundreds of families in the kingdom, at this moment, who have *seedling fruit trees* on some part of their premises. Some possibly came accidentally; others the produce of pippins or seeds, sown by a near and dear departed relative—a child, or parent—and on which the survivors look with melancholy regard. Years pass away, and branches are formed, but with little prospect of fruit. Now in this case, and in all other cases where seedlings are raised, how easy would it be to graft a shoot into a bearing branch of a fruit

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tree of a similar character; by which means its value would soon be ascertained, and if worthless, it might be grubbed up, or grafted with a known good variety; or if it should prove good, it might the sooner be made known and disseminated, for others to enjoy it. I will relate a case in point. Years ago, an old gentleman, fond of horticultural pursuits, noticed a seedling pear, in a hedge, on the farm at Wippingham, in the Isle of Wight, now, I believe, attached to Osborne House, the marine residence of her Majesty the Queen. Cuttings were sent more than two hundred miles, to my residence; and as hopes were entertained, from its free mode of growth, that it might prove something good, I immediately cut off two horizontal branches from a pear tree which was trained to a wall, and grafted each with a scion of this pear. The second year, I obtained several very large fruit, but unfortunately size was the only point in their favour. Still it proved how very quickly its merits could be tested, and the same plan might be followed out with every description of fruit. It would be easy enough, in a small garden, to have a pyramidal fruit tree, to experiment on; and suppose it had several tiers of branches, seedlings, as soon as they had shoots as thick as a goose quill, might be grafted on them, and there would be room for forty or fifty sorts. I really believe there would not be a more interesting or more valuable tree in the garden; it would always be a source of pleasure, and might be of immense profit to the owner, independent of the feeling, that if he raised a superior fruit, he was conferring a national benefit. Besides, this plan would give the person who sowed the seed an opportunity of witnessing the result of his labours, during his lifetime. Each graft could have a zinc number attached, and when the scion bore fruit, if it was found to be unworthy, it might be again grafted with another seedling; and even should it prove first-rate, after a sufficient number of grafts were taken from it, it would be advisable to regraft it with an unproved

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seedling, in order that the tree might be kept uniform, and to its character of an *experimental tree*.

I trust the readers of the *Midland Florist* will think this over, and that each will see what he can do in the way of improvement.

REMARKS ON BROWN'S "FREEBLOOMER" POLYANTHUS, ETC.

BY MR. W. HARRISON, SECRETARY TO THE FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

SOME time ago, I read the remarks on this polyanthus, by Mr. Hammond, with surprise and disappointment, as I consider it one of the choicest varieties we have in cultivation. I have only grown it for two seasons, and last year I thought it one of the finest things I had ever seen. I now have it in bloom again, and beg to offer the following remarks upon it:—The tube is beautifully elevated; the eye is a *good* yellow, and a perfect circle, which is a grand and leading point, so many even of our standard varieties having the eye nearly *pentangular* (five-sided); the ground colour is a rich *dark brown*, solidly laid on, and not mixing with the yellow eye, as it is much inclined to do in some varieties; the lacing as near perfection as possible, and of the same colour as the eye; the outline very good and circular. It must be admitted that the lacing does fall short a mere trifle in the middle of the segments, where it sometimes fails in going down to the eye; but this is very rarely the case, and in general I consider it the nearest approach to perfection that I have yet seen. I took the opinion of our florists on the subject, at our exhibition on the 10th instant, and they unanimously agreed that it was quite dark enough to be exhibited as a dark ground variety. My plants of it have not been shaded at all this season; but they are certainly grown in a shady situation, where they get

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little or no sun, and therefore I consider that I am remarking upon Freebloomer just as nature sends it up, and must conclude that Mr. Hammond must have seen it burnt up with the sun. I hesitate not to pronounce it *quite a first-rate variety*, and suitable for competing in the dark ground class.

CROSSLING'S NUNNYKIRK took our seedling prize on the 10th of May. It possesses every property necessary to constitute perfection but the eye, which is a little pentangular, and the outline a little the same; but it may fairly be said to be a most attractive variety, and a match for Pearson's Alexander in its very best state. It will undoubtedly take a prominent place among our established varieties, at future exhibitions.

CROSSLING'S DOUBLE X is another grand seedling of this year, and a most monstrous trusser, the truss, when I saw it half bloomed, consisting of no fewer than five and twenty pips. I saw it a fortnight after, and it was then dressed down to a dozen pips, each a little larger than a shilling, and correctly laced, but the ground colour not so dark as that of Nunnykirk. It is rather short in the stem, but the largest trusser that I know of, and is sure to become a standard variety in future years.

Other Felton seedlings will be commented on in a future number.

Felton, Northumberland, May 14, 1949.

WINDOW GARDENING.

IT has been a source of extreme regret to many, who are devotedly fond of plants, that their favourites will not flourish in the only place where they can keep them through the winter, that is in their *sitting room window;* and yet they often see others, perhaps in their own immediate neighbourhood, who are completely successful.

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I have had some little experience in these matters, and perhaps the result of my practice may be of service to many of your readers; I will, therefore, throw out a few hints, which I trust will be useful. In the first place, I will talk of the various plants adapted for this purpose, and should this part of my communication occupy all the space you can allow me this month, I will continue it in future numbers. I know of nothing more beautiful, as a *blind*, for a sitting room window, than some well grown and healthy plants. These plants must not, however, be selected without some knowledge as to their capability of resisting cold, &c. It would be folly to attempt the cultivation of stove plants, or those which require a warm and humid atmosphere, in a situation of this kind.

In order to succeed perfectly, it will be necessary to choose plants adapted to the situation and the amount of attention which can be bestowed on them. Perhaps no window plants require so little trouble as the cactæ, a tribe affording beautiful flowers, and if properly managed, abundance of them. I am sure many of your readers know the *Creeping Cereus* (Cactus flagelliformis), with its long whiplike shoots, covered with short spines, and producing in great profusion its lively deep pink flowers. This plant may be grown in a variety of ways. It may be trained to a trellis, interlacing the small bars, and in this way, in the course of time, it will make a beautiful object; or it may be grown in a pot, and its flexile branches be allowed to hang down over the sides. Any one at all inventive, can procure a piece of board, nine or twelve inches square, and after making a hole at each corner, introduce some stout string, so that on tying the four ends of the strings together, the board will hang like a scale. It may then be suspended from the upper part of the window, and a shallow earthenware saucer placed on it, in which the pot can stand, and thus avoid any escape of wet when the plant is watered. Again,

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this beautiful plant may be grafted, twelve inches or two feet high, on a near relative, namely, the Pereskia aculeata, called by some persons the Cape Gooseberry, though it is no gooseberry, but belongs to the tribe of plants called cactæ. In this case, the Cereus will form a large head, and droop down till the branches touch the pot. Thus any of your readers who may feel inclined to cultivate this plant, may adopt either of the ways we have pointed out.

The *Cactus truncatum* (Truncated Cactus) is another very handsome plant, and should be highly prized by window gardeners. The stems are flat, breaking off, as it were, every few inches, whence its botanical name "truncatum." The flowers of this plant are pink, large, and attractive, and produced from the margins of the stems, which, if not supported, are weighed down with them. There is a darker variety, called *C. truncatua violacea*, which is of more recent introduction than the other. These two will graft on the Pereskia, and make very charming small standard window plants. Then there is the *Epiphyllum*, or *Cactus Ackermanii, Conway's Giant Cactus, C. speciosissima, C. speciosa*, with a host of others, some species, others hybrids, or cross-bred sorts; in fact, this tribe forms a splendid group for house cultivation. These have many advantages over other plants cultivated in a house; being destitute of leaves, they make no litter; very few insects, if any, disfigure them in these situations; and what is more, when not in flower, they require very little of either water or attention; in fact, I know of no plants so suitable for those who have but little time to spare, and there are few that will contribute so gorgeous and magnificent a display of blooms, for so small an amount of attention bestowed on them. In their native country (South America), they are exposed to a tropical sun, frequently without a drop of water perhaps for months. They would, to a careless spectator, appear nearly dead, wrinkled, and withered; but when the rain does come, then, as if by magic,

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they start into life, and are speedily covered with their splendid flowers. This, then, will afford a hint for their treatment, of which the window gardener must take advantage. Many persons say, we cannot bloom our cactuses; and why? because they suppose that as their geraniums and myrtles require water all the year round, once a week, or every day or two, so must the cactus; but there never was so mistaken an idea.

Let those who have despaired, *despair no more*, but turn out their plants in a very hot situation, during July and August, and withhold water altogether, till they are brought in again, at the close of the latter month; water sufficient to soak the ball of soil may then be given, once a fortnight; and I shall be much mistaken if these plants will not, at the proper blooming season, surprise their possessors.

H. S. M

NOTES ON TULIPS AND EXHIBITIONS OF 1849.

BY THE EDITOR.

Our readers, or at least the floricultural part of them, will be glad to hear somewhat of the tulips exhibited at the great northern show, at York, and at other places, during the past season.

We made memorandums at the time of what particularly struck us as being good, but we have no doubt that many flowers exhibited, were, from various causes, so completely out of character as to be scarcely recognized. We consider the York meeting a model exhibition, not only as regards the great liberality evinced in the schedule of prizes, but also in the excellent arrangements made by the indefatigable secretary, Mr. Hepton, and the energetic committee of gentlemen who aided him in carrying out the plans calculated to ensure success. That some of the exhibiters were disappointed, is not to

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be wondered at; but, we believe, *with one exception* (a gentleman, by the by, who was most anxious to know the properties of a flamed tulip), they appeared to settle down quietly under their loss, and to be determined, when another opportunity offered, to do their best to win.

The judges at the York show took high ground, and we venture to say, that flowers with stained cups and tinged stamens, will, for the future, be at a discount. The old favourites, which want the essential properties of purity and form, are doomed; and it will be well for those who are now cultivating seedling breeders, to save themselves trouble and disappointment, by discarding all flowers with the disqualifications alluded to; for though a stained-cupped breeder may, if it break in a feathered state, become perfectly clean, we believe those which have stained stamens, *never will*.

We may observe here, that an immense quantity of flowers were brought together. The varieties which preponderated were Charles X. with all its synonyms of Sovereign, George IV., Brisson, Duke of Lancaster, Defiance, &c.; Captain White, Waller, Heroine, Milton, Surpass Catafalque, &c., with old varieties in great abundance; in fact, our readers will believe that the judges had no slight task, when they had the properties of more than two thousand flowers to investigate, and which, we believe, passed under review several times, during the long period of six hours and a half, which they unremittingly devoted to it. The first pan was gained by Mr. Thornelly, of Heaton Norris, near Stockport. The flowers more particularly calling for remark here, were Princess Royal, a flamed byblœmen, clean, and beautifully marked. A flamed rose, called Elegans, was a striking flower, having a good cup, very brilliant colour, and being marked in good style, the flame meeting the feather, without breaking through at the top of the petals, but the stamens were slightly tinged. The gem of the six flowers composing the

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pan, was the feathered byblœmen, a superb flower. Though young, it was fine in form and pure in colour, with a strong black feather, and we have no doubt, that in a few days after the exhibition, it would be even more beautiful, if possible, than it was at that period. There appeared to be some uncertainty about the name. Even Mr. Gibbons was in "a fix;" and whether Maid of Orleans, Sable Monarch, or some other variety, newly broken (to which last opinion we strongly incline), there was but little chance of ascertaining. Certainly the breeder, which was pointed out to us, was neither that of Sable Monarch nor the Maid; and we are grieved to find so fine a lot of flowers so sadly depreciated by the confusion into which they are thrown; for we are sure that those who ought to be best acquainted with them, are *all abroad.*

Mr. Spencer's pan was remarkable for a very fine flamed bloom of Surpass Catafalque. His other flowers were well-grown old varieties (as will be seen by the report), clean, fresh, and up to the mark.

In the other pans, few flowers call for particular remark. Donzelli, flamed bizarre, was long enough in the cup, but well marked. David, too, was pretty. Lord Lilford was clean, and a pretty feathered bizarre, though we have seen it this season with stained stamens. Mungo we did not like; it was long and stained, and in this instance, the flowers associated with it brought it through; for had it been shown in a class, these defects would have placed it low, or perhaps excluded it. And here we have a practical illustration of the superiority of class-showing, to test the individual merits of flowers. Purple Perfection, a flamed byblœmen, in the last pan, was a brilliant flower, the beam heavy enough for the south, but an acquisition.

In the breeders, Mr. Dixon gained the first prize, with three nice seedlings, raised by Mr. Lightbody, of Falkirk. The Devonshire breeder, in the second pan, we had some doubts about; and the Amelia,

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though a beautiful-shaped rose, had stamens slightly tinged. Marcus Manlius, bizarre, and Demosthenes, in Mr. Slater's pan, were good; the third, Agnes Beaumont, rose, was excellent in colour and purity; its defect being length of petal and want of substance. The others were Chellastons, on which no particular remark need be made here.

We shall continue the notices in our next, as the space devoted to this department of our work is now filled.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

I MUST now resume my narrative of the new and beautiful things I have memoranda of; and it is to me, at all times, a pleasing task to communicate these to the readers of the *Midland Florist*.

HARDY TREES.

IN these you have many who delight. Perhaps they have not heard of the PULPLE-LEAVED ELM *(Ulmus stricta purpurea)*. This, though not so intense in colour as the Purple Beech, is, nevertheless, a handsome and interesting tree, forming another contribution to plants of this tendency, namely, the Purple-leaved Nut, the Purple-leaved Barberry, the Norway Beech, &c.

I have, to-day, seen a singular sport, a VARIEGATED TULIP TREE *(Liriodendron tulipifera argentea)*. The common variety has been alluded to, at page 324, vol. 1. The leaves of this tree are similarly formed with the common variety, but very distinctly blotched

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with white. It is grafted, and probably ten years old. Should the variegation prove permanent, it will be a desirable plant.

QUERCUS LOUETTII. *(Louett's Oak.)*—Of foreign extraction. A deciduous variety, with singular willow-shaped leaves. From its distinctness, it will be worthy of extended cultivation.

THE PERSIAN OR PINK BROOM.—I have this marked as a really good hardy shrub, not often seen. The buds, previous to expansion, are deep pink on the exterior, covering the plant in countless numbers, in a similar manner to the beautiful White Broom, of which this is a variety. It will often come true from seed, varying, of course, in the intensity of the colour. It will graft on the laburnum, but does not appear to be so long-lived on this stock.

PERENNIAL HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

IN this class I have noted several striking additions to our parterres, or flower beds. I was indeed much pleased, the other day, with a mule pink, called DIANTHUS ALTA CLARENSIS. It is double, of a peculiar deep lake, a most brilliant colour, and very beautiful.

GALLARDIA SPLENDIDISSIMA.—Much more dwarf in habit than other varieties, a point of considerable importance, the head of flowers forming a compact mass of yellow and crimson. One of the most attractive plants I have seen for some time.

AQUILEGA FRAGRANS *(The Sweet-scented Columbine)*, is really an interesting plant. I am fond of all the family, for we have few more interesting plants than A. glandulosa, A. arctica, and A. Siberica. This one (A. fragrans) is cream-coloured, a broad bold flower, with an agreeable perfume. The seed of these plants should be sown as soon as ripe, a

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point which I trust your readers will keep in remembrance.

PHLOX SPECIOSISSIMA NANA.—The old variety of this fine sort is one of the most showy in our gardens, but is objectionable on account of its height. The above is a great improvement, possessing all the fine properties of its parent in an eminent degree, but not rising higher than eighteen inches to two feet. It is one of the best additions to this already numerous and diversified ornamental border plant.

BEDDING PLANTS.

As bedding plants, and for filling up vacant spaces, there are now so many good things, that the amateur has abundant choice.

SCARLET GERANIUMS,

I saw very good, the last as well as this season. One of the best is

The Perpetual Scarlet, deriving its name from its continuous flowering. It has received several certificates of merit, and is certainly a first-rate plant.

Gem of Scarlets is also a brilliant sort; and the same may be said of *Ivery's Superb*, *Scarlet Defiance*, and *Tam O'Shanter*.

VERBENAS.

In addition to those alluded to in my last, the following are new and beautiful:—

Le Normand.—A beautiful crimson, with a rich marone eye.

Vicomte de Sourval.—A first-rate and splendid scarlet.

Orpha.—A fine rose colour, dark eye.

Epomine.—A very attractive variety, colour deep rosy salmon, with distinct eye, very fine.

Tomy.—Fine rich and dark marone, distinct and good.

Ochroleuca.—This is inclined to be yellow, but it should be several shades deeper, and of a brighter colour, to be a favourite. All that can now be said of it is that it is singular, and probably will be the parent of seedlings possesssing finer character.

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GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

I NOTED many others besides those I have previously described.

FUCHSIAS.

Sapphire.—A beautiful new variety, of good habit; the colour dark crimson, with a very waxy appearance; the corolla deep purple.

There have been several of this character raised in the neighbourhood of Birmingham, during the last few years, but this is one of the best.

Chateaubriand (Miellez).—A light variety, of novel and fine character. The flowers are large; the exterior, or the sepals, are pink, tipped with buff, or pale yellow; the corolla, or interior of the flower, being a fine bright orange.

I also saw two others, raised by Miellez, which were very fine.

Model.—Pink, with large orange corolla.

Perfection.—Novel and attractive; light crimson, with lilac corolla.

All these were well grown, and produced an immense quantity of flowers.

H. S.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

HARRISON'S FELTON HERO.—A bizarre tulip, broken during the present season, 1849. The cup is fine, base and stamens pure, form good, and ground colour deep yellow, with a heavy brown feather. There is a slight flame up each petal, meeting the feather, without breaking through.

SCARNELL'S BIJOU.—A splendid feathered rose tulip, of superlative form. The ground is pure white, the marking well laid on, the petals of good substance and altogether worthy of its designation. It has been shown this season, in fine character, answering to the above description.

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Before proceeding with my usual report on the south country tulips, I have to offer to the notice of the northern amateur, a few novelties exhibited at the South Amateurs' Show, at the Horns, Kennington.

Pelopidas.—A very good third-row byblœmen, which pleased me much. Stock principally in the hands of a Mr. Smith.

Queen Victoria (Brooks).—Fourth-row rose. Deep and full feather, and clean.

Scarnell's Bijou.—Second-row rose. A beautiful flower and large cup. In the hands of Mr. Dixon, Acre-lane, Clapham. The price, £5.

Hogarth (King).—Apparently a new and distinct variety of bizarre, the marking a well-pencilled star. Broke from a breeder in a cottager's garden, at Canterbury. Origin of the breeder not known.

May Queen.—A rose; fine form, thick petals, colour of Lac. Broke this season. Considered by the censors a very superior flower.

Mr. Crook, the honorary secretary, carried the seedling prize with this.

Several seedlings were exhibited by Mr. Brooks, one, a very fine bizarre, named *Lord Hardinge;* also a fine byblœmen, broke this year, by Mr. Crook, and named *Edward Clark.*

J. DAVIDSON.

FRUITS.

I TRUST your readers will aid you in disseminating information as to the best and newest fruits, by which means an immense mass of really acceptable knowledge will be brought together. You have noticed many good pears, plums, apples, &c. in the two past volumes, but I have not observed the following, which are really fine:—

Beurré Audusson.—This is a fine large melting pear, of first rate excellence. When on a quince stock, it is adapted for small gardens, but when worked on the pear, it appears more robust, though in either case it bears remarkably well. When better known, it will be much sought after, for independent of its flavour, its appearance is handsome.

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Beurré Moiré.—Ripe in October, and not only large, but also productive. It bears well either as espalier or standard.

Doyenne Boussoc.—An early variety, ripening in August, and I think likely to make a good market pear, for the fruit is extremely handsome. The flesh is buttery and melting.

Your readers must not suppose, that because these pears have strange names, they are consequently scarce, or difficult to be procured. I have no doubt that any nurseryman who grows pears extensively, can supply them, and that too at a reasonable rate.

CHERRIES.

Biggareau d'Esperin.—A very fine new heart, of large size and excellent quality, and when to be obtained at the usual price, will most assuredly be much in demand.

Coe's Late Carnation is also a splendid late cherry, raised in Suffolk. It is a variety of much excellence.

Harrison's Heart.—A robust and prolific variety, and though not so new as either of the preceding, is valuable for its size and flavour: joined to which is another good quality, the flesh is very firm, so that it bears carriage better than most other sorts.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

HYBRIDIZATION.

I BEG to inform you, that last autumn, from careful impregnation, I at length obtained seed, which I trust will produce hybrid flowers between the picotee and pink. The pollen was taken from a rather inferior variety of pink, but I was glad to have the chance of obtaining a progeny, which, to this neighbourhood, must prove a novelty; at least it will be so to myself; and I am pleased to think the object is attainable. Have you any instance of such a thing? The mule pink, as it is called, is here well known; but I suspect it can never have been the result of a cross between these two flowers; its foliage more

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resembles the wallflower than either of them. The seedlings are now up and vigorous. You shall have the first opportunity of pronouncing on the merits or demerits of the blooms, if they go on well, and I am not expecting too much at your hands.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. I. C.

[We take intense interest in matters of this kind; and our friends cannot confer a greater favour on us, than communicating similar experiments.]

CABBAGE.

THE following are descriptions of three or four sorts of cabbage:—

Waite's King of the Cabbage.—Very early, good size, dark green leaf, fine flavour, the earliest in cultivation; time of sowing, July.

Early Coudon.—Fine large; requires good rich ground to bring it to perfection.

Stone's Sprotborough.—A fine early cabbage, good size and excellent flavour.

East Ham.—Fine cabbage; likewise requires rich ground to bring it to perfection.

Early Dwarf and Early York.—Good sorts for poor ground.

ON SECURING NEWLY-PLANTED LARGE EVERGREEN TREES.

EVERGREENS, presenting as they do at all seasons, a mass of foliage, are liable to constant oscillation in windy weather. Were this permitted with those large plants newly transferred to their fresh quarters, the young roots could not by possibility lay hold of the soil; the ball with which they were moved would soon be separated from the earth surrounding it; in winter, the interstices would get saturated with wet, which would occasionally be frozen, and soon rot or kill the young and delicate fibres; in spring, the searching winds would penetrate, and to a certainty

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prove equally fatal. Therefore, with these large plants, it becomes absolutely necessary to secure them against being tossed to and fro. One season's protection will generally accomplish this. To effectually sustain them in their position, three stakes, at least, will be required; and as these stakes are not intended to be permanent, any common fir thinnings will sufficiently answer the purpose. Strong tar-yarn, with a collar of hay round the stem, to guard against friction, will be found to answer the temporary end. Other modes of staking have been suggested by different individuals, and some have recommended chaining the plants, in preference to either. The particular method is a matter of no real importance; but be it what it may, much of the ultimate success will depend upon its being sufficiently carried out.

Journal of the Horticultural Society.

THE GREEN FLY.—You are well aware that this is one of the greatest enemies of the rose, &c. and many have been the means devised for clearing the plants of it, at this season of the year. The simple plan of applying, early in the morning, a common house hand-brush among the branches, I have found to have a most wonderful effect; it completely clears them of the fly, without in the least injuring the young shoots.—M. SAUL.

DESTRUCTION OF SNAILS.—Of all the poisons which I have tried on snails, there are none which appear to exert so deleterious an influence as the alkalis. If a drop of caustic ammonia, or of caustic potash, be added to a quart of rain water, an alkaline solution will be formed, of such little strength that it scarcely affects delicate test paper, and causes no impression on the organs of taste; if, however, we place some snails in this solution, they soon die, whilst other snails, placed in rain water alone, escape out of the vessel in which they are placed.—*The Florist.*

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RETROSPECTIVE CRITICISM.

ON THE IMPROPRIETY OF SHOWING CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES ON CARDS.

I HAVE read with much surprise and regret, the announcement made by the committee of the Derby carnation meeting, that all carnations and picotees must be shown on cards.

This appears to me rather too much, and reminds me of an anecdote of a traveller, of bygone days, who, on his return from his London journey, assumed so many of the peculiarities of the Londoners to his master, that he at last exclaimed, "none of your London tricks, John."

Why depart from the good old custom of disqualifying every bloom that has either tie or card upon it? This way of showing is not calculated to discover the imperfections of the flowers, as there are many varieties whose petals stand loose in the pod, and others which will not remain in form, whilst a card will keep them in proper position.

As well might a number of men be placed behind a screen, reaching up to the knees, and then judges appointed to report which were the most perfectly made. Some might be lame, others deformed, &c. and all these defects would be hidden by the screen, so that the scrutiny of the judges could not descend below the knee, and those only with handsome features would be preferred, whilst probably below they would be either lame or deformed.

Another leading feature is, that nearly all are to be staged in pans. Pan showing is not a proper criterion as to the merits of a flower, as many a pan may have four good blooms and two very bad ones, and yet obtain a prize, in consequence of having a majority. Class showing is the proper and only true way of ascertaining the merits of a flower.

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Seedlings ought also to be judged separately, and prizes awarded to them; and afterwards be placed in classes, and allowed to take another prize. If this plan were carried out, few flowers would be sent out but what were worthy of a place in the most select collection.

Another argument is, that few small growers are capable of making up a pan of six or twelve flowers, whilst they might have one or more extraordinary good blooms, which would give them a chance of a prize or two.

Classes ought also to run ten in length for carnations and picotees, and four in length for rose and yellow picotees.

If these views were carried out in a proper spirit, we should then see a great revival in exhibitions, and more competition.

These remarks are offered in a friendly spirit, and I hope they will be received as such.

JOHN SLATER.

Cheetham Hill, near Manchester, June 9, 1849.

Part III.

REVIEW.

The Florist.

We are glad to hear this work is progressing well, a certain result of a good selection of articles, and spirited management.

The illustration of the June number is three fancy pelargoniums—*Ambrose's Defiance,* beautifully shaped, and shaded plum colour; *Gains's Ne plus ultra*, cherry, edged with white; and *Ambrose's Jenny Lind*, the upper petals deep pink, edged with white, the three lower ones peach, with a darker spot in

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each. They form a very pretty group. The articles are of general interest.

Mr. Kendall gives a good idea for putting out geraniums in the open border. He plunges them in pots, leaving a space below, so that superfluous water may drain off. By this means, the plants do not make such luxuriant growth, and a greater quantity of flowers are the result. We have not room for more extracts this month; but having Mr. Beck's kind permission to take what we think will interest our readers, we shall avail ourselves more largely in future.

[We have to thank Mr. Harrison for the promise of the *Cabinet*. Had it come to hand, we would gladly have noticed it.]

QUERIES.

I have received the June number of the *Midland Florist*, for which I am obliged. I have tried the salt water with my asparagus beds, and find that it has not improved them. Will you inform me if you consider nitrate of soda would be of use, and in what proportion or quantity it should be used? also whether you think it might be used with advantage as a manure for pinks and carnations? I have adopted your advice as to my beds of ranunculuses, and they promise to be much finer than any I have ever had. A constant subscriber and admirer of the *Midland Florist*, C. I. P.

Will you oblige me with your opinion as to my balsams? My employer tells me they are of no use, they are spoilt, good for nothing, too much drawn to make good plants, and so on. I have measured some of them, and find them from ten to fifteen inches high, and from an inch to an inch and a half round the stem; and this he says is as tall us they ought to be when full grown, he is ashamed to see them, &c. and has told me to destroy them, which I do not feel inclined to do, for I thought of growing them about three feet high, and they are pushing side shoots, and looking very healthy. When I think of the makeshifts I have been put to, in growing them and hundreds of other plants and cuttings, to decorate his borders, this summer, after working early and late, and being obliged to grow everything in the cucumber and melon frames, for want of other convenience, I conceive this is poor encouragement from my employer. I should think he never saw a well grown

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balsam. Although I do not mean to say that mine will be first-rate, I think they will make very good plants, such as I need not be ashamed to look upon. If you will give me your opinion, as soon as convenient, in the *Midland Florist*, you will greatly oblige

A CORRESPONDENT IN THE AWKWARD SQUAD.

You will greatly oblige, by informing me of the best method of propagating the Ventricosa tricolor heath, and also by stating the difference, if any, between the geranium and pelargonium. A WATERFORD SUBSCRIBER.

Will the editor of the *Midland Florist*, or some one of its numerous subscribers, oblige me by giving a receipt for making ginger wine? W. B.

Would you be kind enough to inform me, in your next number, if the enclosed are the true haricot beans? I am informed they grow from three to four feet high, and are supposed to be the haricot. If so, are they more profitable than peas, for a cottager to grow? Are there more than one variety? *Ross, Herefordshire.* W. S.

[The beans sent are the true haricot, and no doubt, in favourable summers, would succeed in Herefordshire.]

Please say, in your next number, what is the cause of the unhealthy appearance of the enclosed rhododendron leaf. The plants have made a vigorous growth in the greenhouse. It is chiefly confined to the true Arborea and Russelliania. They were potted previous to making growth, and there has been no lack of water since; and after potting, they were soaked in a tub of water, to ensure thorough moisture to the centre of the ball of earth. F., OF Y.

[The leaf appears *burnt*; i. e. injured by the action of the sun. Many plants have suffered in this way, when the houses have been glazed with plate glass. Have you a thin linen covering to your greenhouse? It is indispensable.]

Will azaleas and kalmias strike by cuttings? and when is the best time, and what are the best means? How is the Clematis azurea grandiflora propagated? JOSEPH BURGESS.

[Propagate azaleas by cuttings of the young wood, in sand; kalmias by seed; and the clematis by layers.]

I enclose you some leaves and bloom from one of my apple trees, which is suffering from a sort of mildew. I wrote you on the subject, last winter, and in the January number of the *Midland Florist* you requested further information. My trees which are most subject to it are Manx Codlings. They are against a wall of south-east aspect, soil strong retentive loam, three feet deep, with clay subsoil, well drained. They have been planted about twenty years, and have been subject to the

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mildew the last seven or eight years. Before that time, they bore good crops of very handsome fruit. The situation is rather high. The apple trees were in full bloom here about a week since; by this you will be able to judge how much later we are in the mountainous parts in the south of Northumberland than you are in the midland counties. If you can prescribe or suggest anything to restore my trees to a healthy state, in your next number, you will oblige yours respectfully,

Haydonbridge, June 4. S. H. JELD.

[We would advise that the trees be unnailed, in the autumn, and well pruned; after which, with a small whitewash brush, give them a dressing with lime, mixing about three-quarters of a peck to a bucket of water, and applying it immediately. They may remain detached till the latter end of January, when they may be renailed; at which time, fork over the soil several yards from the stem or bole of each tree, and give the surface a good dressing with rotten manure. If nothing unforeseen happen, by this time next year, we shall be glad to hear the result of our advice.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In answer to Dera, in your last number I have the pleasure to inform him, that the saccharine juices of the rhubarb possess a self-fermentation, after the sugar is added to it, it requires no yeast. W. B.

On the cover of your last number, you have mentioned zinc labels. I here forward you two recipes for indelible ink, to be used in writing on them, with a specimen of each on the bit of zinc enclosed. To prepare the zinc, rub the part to be written upon to a clear surface, with glass or emery paper. No. 1. Verdigris, powdered, 1 drachm; sal ammoniac, 1 drachm; lamp black, ½ drachm; water, 10 drachms. Mix and shake before using.—No. 2. Rain water, 3 oz.; chloride of platinum, 15 or 20 drops, according to the intensity required.—I had a small quantity of the latter article sent me by a friend in London, half of which I have made into ink, and if you cannot obtain it in your neighbourhood, the other half is at your service. In the specimen sent, No. 2 is the most intense, and it is the best ink, there being no sediment.

Market Rasen. DERA.

BUCK'S GEORGE IV. POLYANTHUS.—The eye of this flower is round,

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In your number for May, Zero proposes a query, as to the most proper drainage for flower pots. For a long time past, I have used small bits of charcoal, with one small bit of crock placed over the hole in the bottom of the pot, with good success, and this can be turned out into the beds altogether, at planting time. For specimen plants it is also very good, but bones, broken small as horse beans, I think, are better. I have at this time some geraniums, looking as well as I could wish, part drained with charcoal and part with broken bones. W. S.

Budding Roses.—Tyro.—If buds are inserted *now*, and after a week, the shoot is cut away a few inches beyond the insertion, they will emit a shoot this season. We prefer operating at a later period, in order that the bud may remain dormant till the following spring. Most roses succeed on the common stocks. The Boursault rose stocks are better for hybrid perpetuals, Bourbons, and Chinese; yet we grow these sorts strong and well on common briers. It is always best to bud during the evening, or in cloudy weather. Some cultivators, after inserting the bud, if very hot weather, tie a laurel leaf over it for a few days.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JULY.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

It is now a good time to get in plants of *Walcheren Cauliflower*. These require ground that has been well worked, and which is highly manured.

Cauliflower broccoli, Brussels sprouts, savoys, and similar greens should be put out without delay. Attend to them well at first, for much of their success will depend on the start they have; it is not enough that they are merely *stuck* into the ground, but they should be watered in dry weather, and after they are established, occasionally treated with liquid manure.

Celery.—The main crop may now be planted. They may be put in where early peas have been grown. Some people throw up ridges, on which they plant two rows of cabbage, in the autumn, leaving a trench between, which is now well filled with rotten manure, and planted with *celery*. Of course the cabbage is off before the *celery* requires earthing up. By this means two crops are got off the ground, and it is a capital preparation for succeeding crops.

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Cabbages.—Sow early in the month, such as Sprotborough, Waite's King of Cabbage, or Early Dwarf; from the possibility of potatoes being diseased and scarce, these will be required in quantity. The main crop may be deferred ten days.

Endive, which makes a wholesome and excellent salad, and which should be cultivated by the artizan more than it is, should now be sown. A very small quantity of seed will suffice. Toward the latter end of the month, the plants may be pricked out where they are to remain. It is highly essential that the ground be well manured.

Turnips.—Sow for an autumn crop. The Six-weeks and Snowball are good and quick bulbing varieties, and do not make a very large top.

Onions.—There are serious complaints of the destructive effect of the onion maggot, this season. At page 237 of our last year's volume, is a good recipe for their destruction; and on the principle that "prevention is better than cure," it would be advisable to apply it, the trouble and cost being so trifling.

Eschalots will in many instances require pulling. It is a good plan to "ease" them with a small fork, which will in a great measure prevent mildew, which sometimes attacks them.

Peas.—Tall and late varieties should, after they attain the required height, be *topped*, which has a very beneficial effect on the crop. Copious waterings, in dry weather, will also be advisable.

Kidney Beans.—The Scarlet Runner is one of the most profitable vegetables grown. They should have strong stakes, and as in the case of tall peas, their upward growth should be stopped by pinching off the tops, which will make the crop more regular and abundant. The pods should be gathered clean, for when any are left on for seed it very much curtails the produce. It is a better plan to have one or two plants kept entirely for that purpose; if allowed to run up a strong stake, they will form a handsome pillar of flowers, combining in no ordinary degree "utility with beauty."

FLOWER GARDEN.

Roses may be budded during this month. Those who have not many to operate upon, should choose the most suitable time—in *cloudy weather*, for instance; if the operation is performed with any care, success is certain, for the buds will succeed, whether the wood is removed or not.

From the injury which the foliage of *tulips* received, during the past spring frosts, the bulbs will require immediate removal, and we fear will be found to have suffered severely. Dry in the shade, when they may be stored away in some place where mice cannot reach them, till an opportunity serves for removing the fibres, &c. and thoroughly cleaning them.

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Pinks.—Continue to put in pipings. The compost should be leaf soil and silver sand. Put them in a shady place, and cover with a bell glass. Any early pipings that have rooted should be pricked out on a prepared bed, thoroughly clear of wireworms.

Ranunculuses.—These are raised so easily from seed, that first-class flowers are springing up in every direction. We have seen some this season of extra fine quality, and of an amazing size. The bloom will now be passing away, and of course it is a critical period; for few things are so detrimental to a collection as to have heavy rains on them after the foliage has withered. The roots are so susceptible that they immediately emit fibres, and when taken up in this state, suffer severely. An awning should be kept over them, to throw off the rain, till they are taken out of the ground.

Dahlias.—Liquid manure is required by these plants; in fact, to grow them well, they should have it twice a week at least. Place smaller sticks round the main stake, and tie the lateral shoots to them, or on some windy day, to the grower's sad discomfiture, the branches will be wrenched off. Keep small pots, with a portion of moss, on the tops of the stakes. These should be examined every day, and the earwigs destroyed.

Pansies.—Strike the side cuttings, and cut off the ends of the strong shoots, which will cause many laterals to be thrown out, from which an abundance of young plants may be obtained.

The early-sown *annuals* will now begin to add their share to the beauty of the garden. We would advise, however, that they still be thinned out; fine grown single plants are far preferable to two, four, or even half-a-dozen growing together, which, in their rivalry to obtain support in a given space of ground, *ruin each other*, and are drawn-up misshapen things.

Look well after the beds of last year's *seedling perennial herbaceous plants*, such as the *Dianthus*, *delphineum*, *linum*, &c. as it is possible that some new varieties may be discovered, which may prove valuable to the possessor.

Turn out *balsams* in the open ground. If in a warm and sheltered situation, they make a splendid autumn display.

Stop the leading shoots of *verbenas*, in order to induce a bushy growth. Peg down the shoots as they advance. We use small leaden pegs, with hooks, which will last for years, and are far better than any other thing we know of.

All *summer bedding plants* require attention, which they will amply repay. Remove decayed flowers of every kind.

Cut off seed vessels from *rhododendrons*, &c.; if allowed to remain, they make against the buds forming for next season.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Obtain plenty of *strawberry runners*. There are now great variety, and at this time of the year they may be had cheap.

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Train *fruit trees*, and remove fore right shoots. Pinch off the ends of the branches of *currant trees*.

We do not think there will be much reason to advise thinning *fruit* this season; still, in some cases, it may be advantageous.

During this month, *cherries*, *apricots*, &c. may be budded. Stake *young trees*, &c.

GREENHOUSE.

Much now of the show depends on *fuchsias*, *balsams*, *mimuluses*, &c. Propagate any that are desirable, if opportunity serves. Try to cross-breed some of these plants, always confining the operation to those of the same kind, but endeavour to produce as much contrast as possible. It is a beautiful amusement, and from the first formation of the seed pods to their period of ripening—sowing, attending to the young plants, their flowering, the occasional disappointment, the hope of raising something first-rate, the excitement as a promising bud shows itself, the delight in accomplishing the wished-for improvement—all, all tend to render this part of the amateur's employment one of much and pleasing enjoyment, independent of the sure profit it brings for any improvement on existing varieties.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

LEICESTER AMATEUR FLORISTS' SOCIETY.

The first exhibition for the season was held at the Talbot Inn, on Wednesday, the 25th of April last, but owing to the very unpropitious state of the weather during the preceding week, several of the members were unable to compete.

AURICULAS.

Green-edged.

1 Taylor's Ploughboy, W. Mitchell.
2 Oliver's Lovely Ann, W. P. Cox.
3 Cartwright's Green Ocean, ditto.
4 Oliver's Lady Ann Wilbraham, ditto.
5 Highland Boy, W. Mitchell
6 Stretche's Alexander, ditto.
7 Taylor's Ploughboy, ditto.

Grey-edged.

1 Fletcher's Mary Ann, W. Mitchell.
2 Grimes's Privateer, W. P. Cox.
3 Ditto, ditto, ditto.
4 Smith's Britannia, ditto.

White-edged.

1 Taylor's Glory, W. P. Cox.
2 Hughes's Pillar of Beauty, ditto.
3 Taylor's Incomparable, ditto.
4 Popplewell's Conqueror, ditto.

Selfs.

1 Berry's Lord Lee, W P. Cox.
2 Ditto, ditto, W. Mitchell.
3 Ditto Lord Primate, W. P. Cox.
4 Seedling, ditto.

Alpines.

1 King of the Alps, W. Mitchell.
2 Victoria, ditto.
3 Fair Helen, ditto.
4 Victoria, ditto.
5 Gipsy Queen, W P. Cox.
6 Unknown, ditto.
7 Ditto, ditto.
8 Seedling, ditto.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Hudson's Rubens, G. Hudson.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Hufton's Ld. Rancliffe, W. Mitchell.
4 Ditto, ditto, ditto.

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Collection of hyacinths, from Mr. R. Marris, comprising the following varieties, which were placed as under :—

1 Queen Victoria, single white.
2 Helicon, double blue.
3 Voltaire, single white.
4 Laurens Coster, double blue.
5 Charles James Fox, single blue.
6 Haller, ditto.
7 Grand Blanch, single white.
8 L'Unique, purplish lilac.
9 Ditto, ditto.
10 Grand Vidette, light blue.
11 Frank Van Birkie, single red.
12 Bouquet Royal, double red.

CAMBRIDGE FLORIST'S SOCIETY.

TULIPS.

Premier Prize, Rose Brilliant, Mr. B. Dickerson.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Platonia, Mr. Ready.
2 Abercrombie, Mr. Coulden.
3 Thomas Brown, Mr. Dickerson.
4 Platonia, Mr. Ready.
5 Abercrombie, ditto.
6 Donzelli, Mr. Twitchett.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Mr. Coulden.
2 Ditto, Mr. Dickerson.
3 San Josef, Mr. Coulden.
4 Charbonnier, ditto.
5 Polyphemus, Mr. Ready.
6 Platoff, Mr. Coulden.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Winifred, Mr. Dickerson.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Penelope, Mr. Twitchett.
4 Ambassador de Holland, Mr. Ready.
5 Ditto, ditto, ditto.
6 Winifred, Mr. Dickerson.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Louis XVI., Mr. Dickerson.
2 Acapulca, ditto.
3 Rubens, Mr. Twitchett.
4 Siam, Mr. Twitchett.
5 Acapulca, Mr. Dickerson
6 Surpasse Salvator Rosa, Mr. Catling.

Feathered Roses.

1 Minerva, Mr. Ready
2 Cerise Blanche, Mr. Coulden.
3 Heroine, Mr. Ready.
4 Ditto, Mr. Coulden.
5 Ponceau tres Blanc, Mr. Ready.
6 Heroine, Mr. Catling.

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Brilliant, Mr. Dickerson.
2 Rosa Quarto, Mr. Twitchett.
3 Aglaia, ditto.
4 Catalini, ditto.
5 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
6 Cerise Belle Forma, Mr. Coulden.

Six Feathered Roses.

1st. Polyphemus, Thalestris, Glorla Mundi, Guerrier, Rachel Ruish, Ambassador, Mr. Dickerson; 2nd. Triomphe Royale, Platoff, Siam, San Josef, Winifred, Washington, Mr. Coulden.

PETER EATON'S TULIP MEETING,

Bedford, near Leigh, Lancashire, May 19.

Factory Prize (kettle).—T. Belshaw, for Rose Unique, Walworth.

Maiden Grower's Prize (kettle).—1. T. Belgrave, Crown Prince, Bienfait, Toot, Walworth, Unique, Ridey; 2. G. Mort, for George IV., Lustre, Surpass Lacantique, Bienfait, Count, Unique.

Steward's Prize.—1. A. Blackbury, for George IV., Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Rose Unique; 2. R. Ratcliffe, for George IV., Lustre, Winner, Bienfait, Count, Unique; 3. J. Eaton, for Gold Buers, Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Rose Vesta, Rose Regina; 4. J. Postlethweate, for Pass Catafalque, Lustre, Lancashire Hero, Toot, Count, Newcastle; 5. R. Glegg, for George IV., Lustre, Bienfait, Wallers, Count, Unique; 6. W. Leather, for Crown Prince, San Joe, Winner, Bienfait, Count, Unique; 7. A. Belshaw, for Crown Prince, Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Regina; 8. R. Prescot, for Crown Prince, Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Unknown, Unique; 9. W. Leather, for George IV., Surpass Lacantique, Grand Turk, Bienfait, Count, Unique; 10. J. Monks, for Trafalgar, Lustre, Mango, Roi de Siam, Dolittle, Unique; 11. P. Rosbotham, for Surpass Catafalque, Lacantique, Winner, La Belle Narene, Count, Regina; 12. W. Batersby, for Lord Melbourn, Duke of Devonshire, Bienfait, Adelaide, Count, Vesta.

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Feathered Bizarres.

1 Magnum Bonum, A. Blackburn.
2 Surpass Catafalque, ditto.
3 Crown Prince, R. Clegg.
4 Trafalgar, G. Mort.
5 Wellington, ditto
6 General Blucher, J. Postlethweate.
7 Firebrand, A. Blackburn.
8 Waterloo, J. Postlethweate.
9 Gold Buers, S. Moss.
10 Old Lacantique, G. Mort.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Turner's Bizarre, J. Postlethweate.
2 Lustre, R. Ratcliffe.
3 Surpass Lacantique, J. Bromelow.
4 Crown Prince, W. Lythgoe.
5 Carlos, R. Ratcliffe.
6 Albion, J. Eaton.
7 Liberty, P. Rosbotham.
8 Dutch Catafalque, J. Eaton.
9 Pilot, R. Ratcliffe.
10 Sutheran's Britannia, J. Eaton.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Winner, R. Prescot.
2 Washington, ditto.
3 Bienfait, R. Clegg.
4 Mungo, A. Blackburn.
5 Ambassador, ditto.
6 Prince, W. Leather.
7 Burdoe, J. Postlethweate.
8 Incomparable, J. Eaton.
9 Toot, A. Blackburn.
10 La Belle Narene, G. Mort.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, G. Mort.
2 Wallers, A. Belshaw.
3 Sable Rex, R. Prescot.
4 Toot, T. Belshaw.
5 Incomparable, W. Leather.
6 Baguet, J. Eaton.
7 Eagle Noir, J. Thompson.
8 Fuddler, J. Postlethweate.
9 Winner, ditto.
10 Unknown, R. Prescot.

Feathered Roses.

1 Seedling Rose, A. Blackburn.
2 Andromeda, R. Clegg.
3 Dolittle, A. Blackburn.
4 Walworth, A. Blackburn.
5 Count de Vergennes, R Ratcliffe.
6 Triomphe Royale, R Clegg.
7 Lady Crewe, W. Leather.
8 Lady Lilford, W. Batersby.
9 Unknown, R. Clegg.
10 Ditto, W. Lythgoe.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, G. Mort.
2 Regina, P. Rosbotham.
3 Andromeda, R. Prescot.
4 Roi de Cerise, W. Leather.
5 Rose Ann, W Lythgoe.
6 Vesta, P. Rosbotham.
7 Lady Lilford, R. Prescot.
8 Matilda, W. Lythgoe.
9 Lord Hill, ditto.
10 Lady Crewe, P. Rosbotham.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Lilford, J. Postlethweate.
2 Andromeda, A. Blackburn.
3 Lady Crewe, R. Prescot.
4 Unknown, J. Monks.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Charbonnier, J. Postlethweate.
2 Polly, R. Clegg.
3 Dutch Catafalque, J. Postlethweate.
4 Truth, James Monks.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Lancashire Hero, E. Blackburn.
2 71, G. Mort.
3 Beauty, R. Prescot.
4 Unknown, J. Postlethweate.

WILLIAM POSTLETHWEATE'S TULIP MEETING,

Leigh, Lancashire, May 22.

Maiden Prize (kettle).—1. G. Mort, for George IV., Unique; 2. T. Belshaw, for Walworth, Unique.

Stewards' Prize.—1. J. Postlethweate, for George IV., Newcastle, Lancashire Hero, Lustre, Count, Toot; 2. T. Boydell, for Crown Prince, Mango, Heroine, Lustre, Bienfait, Unique; 3. J. Monks, for Trafalgar, Albion, Siam, Mango, Count, Unique. 4. T. Belshaw, for Trafalgar, Crown Prince, Bienfait, La Belle Narene, Walworth, Unique.

Feathered Bizarres

1 George IV., G. Mort.
2 Trafalgar, P. Hiltoe
3 Pass Catafalque, G. Mort.
4 Crown Prince, ditto.
5 Wellington, J. Thompson
6 Magnum Bonum, G. Mort.
7 Duke de Savoy, J. Postlethweate.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, J. Postlethweate.
2 San Joe, G. Mort.
3 Southern's Britannia, ditto
4 Carlos, J. Monks,
5 Albion, G. Mort.
6 Polyphemus, G. Mort.
7 Surpass Lacantique, W. Postlethweate

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Mango, G. Mort.
2 Bienfait, ditto.
3 Baguet, J. Postlethweate.
4 Le Belle Narene, P. Hilton.
5 Washington, G. Mort.
6 Unknown, J. Postlethweate.
7 Toot, J. Thompson

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, T. Belshaw.
2 Wallers, T. Boydell.
3 Magnus, J. Thompson.

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4 Toot, J. Postlethweate.
5 Siam, James Monks.
6 Sable Rose, J. Thomas
7 E. Fournier, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Duc de Bronte, G. Mort.
2 Heroine, T. Boydell.
3 Comte, G. Mort.
4 Dolittle, J. Postlethweate.
5 Hero, T. Boydell.
6 Lady Crewe, J. Postlethweate.
7 Walworth, G. Mort.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, T. Belshaw.
2 Unknown, G. Mort.
3 Boi de Cerise, T. Belshaw.
4 Lady Crewe, T. Boydell.
5 Vesta, J. Monks.
6 Rose Regina, ditto.
7 Unknown, J. Postlethweate.

Breeders.

1 Lady Lilford, J. Postlethweate
2 Monarch, J. Monks.
3 Truth, ditto.

PETER EATON'S TULIP MEETING,

Bedford, near Leigh, Lancashire, May 26. Second Edition of the Great South Lancashire Tulip Meeting.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 George IV., R. Ratcliffe.
2 Lord Lilford, J. Bromelow.
3 Magnum Bonum, R. Clegg.
4 Pass Catafalque, J. Leather.
5 Duke of Savoy, W. Leather.
6 Crown Prince, A. Blackburn.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, G. Mort.
2 Dutch Catafalque, J. Eaton
3 Seedling, R. Clegg.
4 George IV., A. Blackburn.
5 Lustre, R. Prescot.
6 Pass Lacantique, A. Blackburn.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Mungo, J. Bromelow,
2 Baguet, W. Brocklehurst.
3 La Belle Narene, ditto.
4 Toot, J. Eaton.
5 Bienfait, J. Lowe.
6 Violet Winner, J. Bromelow.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Magnus, W. Leather.
2 Wallers, R. Ratcliffe.
3 Roi de Siam, R. Clegg.
4 Baguet, A. Blackburn.
5 Sable Rex, J. Eaton.
6 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe.

Feathered Roses.

1 Triumph, J. Leather.
2 Walworth, W. Leather.
3 Dolitte, J. Bromelow.
4 Duc de Bronte, A. Blackburn.
5 Lady Crewe, R. Prescot.
6 Rose Selina, J. Eaton.

Flamed Roses.

1 Roi de Cerise, W. Brocklehurst.
2 Unique, G. Mort.
3 Lord Hill, W. Leather.
4 Guerrier, W. Leather.
5 Rose Vesta, J. Lowe.
6 Rose Ann, R. Prescot.

GREAT NORTHERN TULIP SHOW,

At the Guild Hall, York, May 29.

The following gentlemen officiated as judges, whose decisions gave every satisfaction:—G. W. Hardy, Esq., of Warrington; Mr. J. F. Wood, Nottingham; and Mr. Jonathan Jackson, of Deighton, near Huddersfield.

The amount of money distributed amongst prizes was upwards of £75, which was chiefly contributed by the citizens of York, and some of the florists of the kingdom. Subjoined will be found

THE AWARD OF PRIZES.

Pans of six Rectified Tulips.—1. Mr. Thornley, for Heroine, Charles X., Gibbons' Seedling, Rose Elegans, Polyphemus, and Princess Royal: 2. Mr. Spencer, for Magnum Bonum, Baguet, Heroine, Catafalque, Queen Charlotte, and Triumph Royal; 3. Mr. Thomas Wilcock, for Charles X., Polyphemus, Bienfait, Alexander Magnus, Heroine, and Triumph Royal; 4. Mr. Hepworth, for Charles X., Donzelli, David No. 1, Baguet, Count de Vergennes, and Aglaia; 5. Mr. Prescot, for Polyphemus, Walworth, Waller's Violet, Lord Lilford, Mungo, Heroine; 6. Mr. Gibbons, for Magnum Bonum, Midland Beauty, Heroine, Triumph Royal, Purple Perfection, and Capt. White.

Pans of three Breeder Tulips.—1. Mr. R. Dixon, for Lightbody's 20, Marmion, Mozambique; 2. Mr. J. Smith, for Duke of Devonshire, Amelia, Unknown; 3. Mr. Slater, for Demosthenes, Agnes Manlius, Agnes Beaumont; 4. Mr. Thornley, three Gibbons' Seedlings; 5. Mr. Gibbons, for Prince Albert's Seedling, Catherine; 6. Mr. Parkinson, Seedling, Britannia, Catherine.

Pans of three Chellaston Breeders.—1. Mr Naylor, (no name); 2. Mr. Hopwood, for Competitor, Maid of Orleans, and Anastasia.

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SINGLE SPECIMENS.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Royal Sovereign, Mr. Summers.
2 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Spencer.
3 Duc de Savoy, ditto.
4 Surpass Catafalque, Mr. Bramma.
5 Lord Lilford, Mr. Naylor.
6 Prince Albert, Mr. Summers.
7 Sanzio, Mr. Backhouse.
8 Nourri Effendi, Mr. Thornley.
9 Optimus, Mr. Spencer
10 Crown Prince, Mr. Smith.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Mr. Spencer.
2 Capt. White, ditto
3 Caliph, Mr. Mallinson.
4 Duke of Lancaster, Mr. Chippendale.
5 Pilot, Mr. Gibbons.
6 Shakspere, Mr. Hepworth.
7 Morning Star, Mr. Naylor.
8 Lord Stanley, Mr. Prescot.
9 Paganini, Mr. Houseman.
10 Rufus, Mr. Hopwood.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Gibbons' Seedling, Mr. Battersby.
2 Edgar, Mr. Naylor.
3 Bienfait, Mr Bromley.
4 Lewold, Mr. Slater.
5 Baguet, Mr. Thornley.
6 Incomparable, Dr. Horner.
7 Gibbons' Seedling, Mr. Thornley.
8 Lord Durham, Mr. Bromley.
9 Ambas. de Holland, Mr. Prescot.
10 Maitre Partout, Mr. Summers.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bacchus, Mr. Bromley.
2 Violet Alexander, Mr. Astle.
3 Sable Queen, Mr. Bromley.
4 Grisdelin Noir, Mr. Hardman.
5 Princess Royal, Rev. S Creswell.
6 Waller's Violet. Mr. Hardman.
7 Incomparable, Mr. J. Smith.
8 Alexander Magnus, Mr. Hepworth
9 Baguet, Mr. Merryweather.
10 Princess Charlotte, Mr. Astle.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Parkinson.
2 Joan of Arc, Mr Naylor.
3 Comte, Mr Turner
4 Hero of Nile, Mr. Prescot
5 Lady Crewe, Mr. Chippendale
6 Newcastle, Mr. Hepworth.
7 Walworth, Mr. Astle
8 Bion, Mr. R. Dickson
9 Dolittle, Mr. E. Scholefield
10 Mrs. Mundy, Mr. Archer

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, Mr. Hopwood
2 Triumph Royal, Dr. Horner
3 La Van Dikken, Mr. Chippendale
4 Lady Wilmot, Mr. Gibbons.
5 Rose Camillus, Mr. Battersby.
6 Rose Unique, Mr. Peacock.
7 Walworth, Mr. Prescot.
8 Vesta, Mr. Hardman
9 Rose Amelia, Mr. Scholefield.
10 Grand Rose Desire, Rev. S. Creswell

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, Mr. Hepworth.
2 Pilot, Mr. Dixon.
3 Unknown, Mr. Gill.
4 Gibbons' Seedling, Mr. Parkinson.
5 Arden, Mr. Peacock.

Byblœmen Breeders

1 Britannia, Mr. Peacock.
3 Gibbons' seedling, Mr. Peacock.
3 Unknown, Mr. Gill.
4 Sancta Sophia, Mr. Chadwick.
5 No. 13, Mr. Walker.

Rose Breeders.

1 No Name, Mr. Astle.
2 Gibbons' Rose, Mr. Dixon.
3 Ruttley's Rose, Mr. Peacock.
4 Gibbons' Rose, Mr. Bramma.
5 Gibbons' Rose, Mr. Peacock.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, Mr. Merryweather.
2 Cotherstone, Mr. J. Smith.
3 Seedling white, Mr. Hinchcliffe.

Premier Rectified Tulip—Mr Thornley, for Gibbons's No. 45.
Premier Breeder Tulip.—Mr. Naylor, for Gibbons's Bizarre Breeder.

LIST OF EXHIBITERS.

Mr Slater, Manchester; Mr. Summers, York; Mr. J. Battersby, Mansfield; Mr. Merryweather, York; Mr. Bell, York; Mr. Wm. Turner, Haslingden, Mr. Burnett, York; Mr. Chippendale, Enfield; Mr. James Hardman, Worsley; Rev. S. Creswell, Nottingham; Mr. R. Houseman, Oakenshaw; Mr. E. Hodgson, Great Harwood; Dr. Horner, Hull; Mr. Hinchcliffe, Halifax; Mr Thornley, Heaton Norris; Mr. Parkinson, Derby; Mr. J. Hepworth, Huddersfield; Mr. Gibbons, Derby; Mr. J. Smith, Derby; Mr. S Bromley, Macclesfield; Mr. Thomas Beighton, Sheffield; Mr. Spencer, Thuleston, near Derby; Mr. Thos. Amson, Congleton; Mr. John Cato, Wakefield; Messrs. William Chadwick, J. Bramma, J. Hopwood. J. Mallinson, Scholefield, and J. Smith, of Leeds; Mr. J. Gill, Wakefield; Mr. Wm. Astle, Melbourne, Derbyshire; Mr. James Morris, Bolton-le Moors; Mr. J. Peacock, and Mr. J. Naylor, Deuton; Messrs. Hart, Stockport; Messrs. Archer, and Green, Sheffield; Mr. Dixon, Manchester; Messrs Prescott and Wilcock, Lowton; Mr. W. Backhouse and Mr. W. Smith, Darlington; Mr. J Weatherall, Darlington; Mr. J. Walker, Mansfield: Mr. Stephens, Leeds; Mr. Coundon, Sunderland.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ON SEEDLING POLYANTHUSES,

RAISED IN FELTON, DURING 1848-9.

BY MR. WM. HARRISON, SECRETARY TO THE FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

IT gives me much pleasure to send you a description of the seedling polyanthuses raised by Mr. William Gallon, of Felton, whose surprising success in this branch of floriculture is the wonder of every one. It is, however, just a striking proof of the great importance of saving ones own seed, and of saving it from the best sorts, *and them alone.* Therefore, let every amateur throw away his bad varieties, save seed from the good old established sorts, raise a bed of seedlings every season, and although his success may not be certain, yet his chances of success are certainly many and great. Add to this the pleasure of seeing so many strange faces sent up annually for his inspection and criticism, and he will soon admit that the raising of seedling polyanthuses is one of the most delightful, and certainly one of the cheapest branches of floriculture. I shall now proceed to a description of

Gallon's Captivator.—This is a beautiful variety, a seedling of last year, and won our fifth prize, on the 10th of May, the first four having been won by Nicholson's King, Pearson's Alexander, Buck's George IV. and Thompson's Mrs. Mitford. It has a good circular outline, lace very correct, ground colour darkish brown, eye a good yellow and finely circular, and tube beautifully elevated and well filled with anthers. When I add that it is also a good trusser, I need say little more to describe it as an excellent variety, and sure to be a favourite flower in future years.

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Gallon's Sir Charles Napier is another seedling of last year, and is a strong-growing large-trussing variety, the truss I saw consisting of twelve large pips. The outline is good, the lacing regular, eye pretty circular and a rich yellow, tube well elevated, and the ground colour a dark brown. A large truss of this must be very formidable, as the pips are much above the average size. It is a good thriver, and strong robust grower, and altogether likely to be a successful prize flower.

Gallon's Nutbrown Maid.—Another very attractive variety. The outline is very good, the lace narrow and regular, the ground colour a nice brown, the eye a good circle, tube well elevated and well filled with anthers. It is something after the fashion of Captivator, but the lace is rather narrower, which makes it quite distinct. It is an excellent variety.

Gallon's Morning Star.—A beautiful red-ground variety; lace very good, eye a rich yellow circle, tube tolerably well elevated; but the outline is not good, the gaps between the segments being large, which makes it rather angular or "starry." Still, with this considerable defect, it is a beautiful sort.

Gallon's Queen Victoria.—A very correct and beautiful variety, the lace being rich and regular, the ground colour a fine brownish crimson, the eye a good circle of rich yellow, and the tube exceedingly beautiful and well filled with anthers. It is a very correct variety, and must be a great favourite in future, as it seems to have all the properties nearly in perfection, and is well worthy of the name it bears.

Gallon's Prince Albert.—Another seedling of last year, and a very beautiful sort. The tube is pretty well elevated, the eye a fine rich large golden circle, the ground colour a darkish brown, and the lace exceedingly fine, but the outline not quite so good as that of her Majesty Queen Victoria, the vacancies between the segments being rather large. This is its only failing, as in every other respect it is quite first-rate, and well worthy of a place beside the last-described variety.

Gallon's Rebecca, in my opinion, is the loveliest of the lot, a real gem, springing from the maternal bosom of mother nature. When I look at it, I think of its pure and high-souled namesake, the Jewish damsel, on the top of the castle of Torquilstone, when she says to the tyrannical knight templar, "Shorten the distance between us but one step, and thou wilt see that the poor Jewish damsel will rather trust her soul with her God than her body with the templar." I can transfer my admiration of the Jewish maiden to her namesake, the flower, for it is indeed a splendid thing. Conceive to yourselves a beautiful tube, finely elevated and a rich circle of gold surrounding it, round this a ground colour of the richest black velvet, and this again surrounded by an

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elegant and correct lacing, and then you see before your mind's eye Gallon's Rebecca. The outline also is very good, and the contrast between the fine eye and the rich dark ground colour being so very striking, it has been admitted by all who have seen it to be a most lovely sort. Well may the raiser of it, among all his other varieties, point with pride to his beauteous Rebecca.

Harrison's Venus is a this year's seedling of my own. It is something like the Venus de Medicis, at Florence, of rather "small but beautiful proportions," as it is only a small weak plant, which has bloomed but two pips. It has, however, all the properties in an eminent degree, and when grown strong, will, I have no doubt, be a very attractive variety.

Harrison's Red Rover.—This is quite a red ground variety, with a very pretty tube, circular eye, and correct lacing. The outline is a very good circle, and altogether it seems to be a very promising sort.

I beg to apologize for trespassing so much on your space; but as the polyanthus is a favourite flower of mine, and as I have taken much pains to ascertain the merits of the foregoing seedlings, before remarking on them, I trust that you will oblige me by giving my observations an early insertion.

NOTES ON TULIPS AND EXHIBITIONS OF 1849.

BY THE EDITOR.

In continuation of our remarks on the flowers exhibited at York, we will now proceed to those shown in the classes. In feathered bizarres there was nothing especially novel. Sovereign and Magnum Bonum were shown in good style, and so they ought to be, considering the immense numbers of these sorts there are to select from. San Josef, which took seventh place, was pretty and clean; and Nourri Effendi was so like Polyphemus (feathered), that it was considered to stand in the same relative position to that flower as Charles X. does to Royal Sovereign.

The first flamed bizarre, Polyphemus, was a magnificent flower, just right to a day, and worthy of its

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position. Caliph stood third. This is an especial favourite of ours. We broke it from one of the Chellaston breeders, and gave it the name it now bears. The form is excellent, colour good, the feather well laid on, and the beam not so extravagantly strong as in some flowers. We supplied Mr. Lightbody, of Falkirk, with a bulb, two or three years ago, and we understand he thought so highly of it as to style it a *perfect gem*. Pilot was also good. This flower varies in the intensity of its marking; sometimes coming nearly red, at others much darker, and the feather nearly black, with lighter flame. Morning Star, though a small flower, was pleasing, and certainly is a variety well worth growing.

In feathered byblœmens, the first place was awarded to one of the Chellastons. This, however, would not have been the case had not Edgar had tinged stamens. This last was otherwise a most splendid and chaste flower, and took our fancy more than any variety exhibited; it was of large size, of the purest white, with its intense purple feather laid on as though with a camel hair brush, and was really a great credit to its raiser.

A fine Bacchus took the first flamed byblœmen, and the second was taken by a variety designated Violet Alexander, but not that flower, though so similar, in a flamed state, as to pass for it. According to information we have received, it is a seedling from that most prolific county, Derbyshire; at all events, it is a fine variety, but the party showing it was certainly blameable in not stating it to be a new variety. The other new flowers in this class were Sable Queen and Princess Royal, both nice sorts; whilst variety in uninjured flowers was so scarce, that Princess Charlotte was placed last.

The Heroines were good, and an excellent flower was placed first. Vergennes was second, and Joan d'Arc third. Some considered this flower to be Walworth; the judges, however, thought differently;

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it was very heavily feathered. Hero of the Nile, of which there were an immense number, was shown in good style. We did not see either a fine Lady Crewe or Lady Middleton, which very much surprised us. The latter part of this class was very inferior, as our readers will suppose, when we state that Dolittle was obliged to be placed; in fact, the judges had no alternative, as they were obliged by the rules to place no variety twice over.

The Aglaia, flamed rose, was a fine specimen; so was the Triomphe Royale, which run it very hard. La Vandycken was in good character, as was Lady Wilmott and Camellius. The former, generally with a clouded base, can be grown pure, and *then* it is extremely beautiful; and the latter, though long in cup, from its purity, brilliant colour, and fine style of marking, must for a long period be a favourite.

In breeders there appeared to be some disappointment, as the first and second bizarres were said to be Pilots. If they were, it was not the fault of the judges. No two bizarres could be more dissimilar in colour. One of them, we afterwards learnt, had been grown under an awning, and kept close on all sides, from the time the bud was green, and consequently was very different in colour to the one which had enjoyed the full exposure to sun and air. The one was its natural colour, whilst the other was many shades lighter. Now in the case of breeders especially, we contend it is hardly fair to suppose, out of the hundreds of seedlings annually making their appearance, that the judges should be able to detect Pilot, without his "pilot coat;" or if, instead of being in ruddy health, he should be *asthmatic* or *consumptive*, there is no wonder in his not being recognized by the judges. But this we know and have experienced, many, many times, there is no position more delicate, or so unsatisfactory, as being a judge at exhibitions of this sort. Some exhibiters must lose, consequently the censors are blamed and their motives impugned; and we were not surprised

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to hear one of them, on this occasion, declare that he would not again place himself in a similar position, but should decline so onerous and unsatisfactory a duty. We must here ask, when a number of breeder flowers are brought together, some perhaps named, the far greater proportion, however, being designated as *seedlings*, or unknown—Clarks, Bromleys, Gibbons, Naylors, &c.—how can judges select without running much risk of placing the same variety twice? We wish some of our friends would suggest a remedy for this state of things amongst the breeder classes, so that censors might meet with less animadversion and more comfort.

LABELS FOR PLANTS, ETC.

ATTENTION having, in our pages, been directed to the best method of writing the names of flowers, &c. on zinc tallies, a friend communicated with us on the subject. His letter came through the post, with our address, on a zinc label, attached to it. We are much obliged by the communication, and we are sure many of our readers will peruse it with much interest; and as the process is so simple, and at the same time effected so cheaply, we trust they will try it for themselves.

"*Pilcher-gate, Nottingham, July* 3, 1849.

"SIR—Your notice of zinc labels, in the *Midland Florist*, for June, and 'Dera's' inks for the same, in the July number, induce me to offer a few observations on the metal. Zinc is both malleable and ductile, between 210° and 300°, a property which enables it to be rolled or hammered into sheets of considerable thinness. I have it as fine as writing paper; but this piece, on which is your address, may be double that thickness. It is well known that dilute sulphuric and muriatic acids act on zinc, and I find, by coating the metal with a film of bees' wax, on the top of a warm oven, and writing any name you may require on the plate, through the wax, with a common awl, then brushing it over with muriate of tin (which I find very suitable), and allowing it to remain for one or two minutes, any

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depth you may require will be etched into the metal. Then wash off the solution, lay on the top of a warm oven, and rub off the wax with a cloth. Here is an engraved zinc plate, that will last a man's lifetime, and look as neat as most inks. There is no difficulty in any part of the process. When a sheet of zinc is prepared beforehand, the time is nearly as short as by any other method. You can easily cut the label from the sheet, with a pair of scissors. The muriate of tin is a common article, used by dyers, and sold by most druggists. I get an ounce for a penny, at Nunn's. You are at liberty to make any use of these remarks you think proper.

"From, Sir, your obedient servant,

"GEORGE GOODWIN."

AN IMPROVED FRAME FOR AURICULAS AND OTHER PLANTS.

BY THE EDITOR.

How beautiful and fragrant are these early-blooming florists' flowers. They are the admiration of every one; yet how few, comparatively speaking, are grown. This arises, probably, from the want of success which many experience in their cultivation, simply because they do not get that small attention which they from time to time require. Often do we see, that when out of bloom, they are removed from their frame, which probably faces due south, and are placed under a wall or hedge. Here they have to take their chance; and as *tulips*, *pinks*, *ranunculuses*, *carnations*, &c. successively occupy the florist's attention, *weeds*, *drought*, *green fly*, and *rain* each have their sinister influence on his neglected favourites. But then, it is the way of the world. Thousands are courted, petted, nay almost worshipped, in their prosperity, who, when the day of adversity comes, are neglected, and left to pine in poverty, distress, and wretchedness. It is ingratitude, base ingratitude, after all. But, in order that the beautiful auriculas may not for the future suffer in the manner we have described, we will tell our readers of a frame we

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have seen this season,—certainly the best contrivance it has ever been our fortune to witness. It may with great propriety be called the "*Revolving Auricula Frame*," and is to be seen in the very excellent garden of Mr. John Hardy, Maypole Inn, Nottingham, who has kindly authorized us to say that his gardener shall show it to any amateur wishing to construct a similar one. We will now briefly attempt a description.

It is about six feet in length, by four in width, made of stout plank, and fitted up with shelves, which rise one above the other, at the same inclination as the glass. There are three strong pieces of wood across the bottom of the frame, in fact, they form its foundation; in the centre piece is a socket, into which fits a stout pillar, which supports the frame; in the two side pieces, as well as on each side the pillar, are small wheels, which work in the same way as castors attached to the legs of a table, and assist in turning the frame and supporting it at a regular distance from the surface, which is a circular platform of wood, on which the wheels traverse; and so easy is the action, that though the frame might have more than a hundred plants, in full bloom, in good sized pots, when we saw it, we could, with the greatest ease, turn it to any point we chose, with one hand.

The lights were glazed with sheet glass, and altogether it had a most excellent appearance. We must not forget to add, that at the lower part of the frame, were slides, which are raised when it is advisable to keep the glass on, so that the plants may enjoy a free circulation of air, which is at all times beneficial.

Having thus given a sketch of the frame, we must now point out its advantages. First, the plants may be kept in it all the year through, and thus, while avoiding very much trouble, they can be preserved from rain, or otherwise, by merely moving the lights, for which one minute will suffice; and as the frame will be in the midst of the other flowers which are occupying attention, it will be passed many times

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a day, and the plants will get that care which they do not receive when in a secluded part of the garden. In this frame, the plants, in the spring of the year, may be moved with the sun (or, more properly speaking, with the earth, as *the sun is stationary*), and thus receive every *ray* from *sunrise* to *sunset*. When in bloom, the frame may be placed due north, and this position can be maintained at the will of the grower. To destroy the green fly, tobacco paper may be burnt under the stage, in the frame, and as the fumes rise, these pests will be killed.

Now, have we said enough in its favour? We will go yet a little further. This frame would also be admirably adapted for ladies, in which to cultivate and tend many beautiful plants, during the summer; and we see no reason why they should not have such plants as hyacinths and early tulips, in spring, succeeded by geraniums, fuchsias, verbenas, &c. They could here protect the flowers from wind and rain; allow them sun, or not, as required; keep them clear of insects; and much of the stooping, &c. in their cultivation, would be avoided. It might also be constructed on gravel paths, and so ornamented as to form a beautiful object in the parterre of the more wealthy amateur. It would also be a nice thing for the juvenile branches of the wealthy. Each might have one; and the emulation which would be excited, the health which would be induced, the love of nature in all her beauteous forms which would be engendered—in fact, we cannot point out all the advantages which would accrue from the adoption of this *revolving frame* of our friend Mr. Hardy; but the thought has just struck us, that the hardy and half hardy ferns, a most beautiful tribe, might, in these frames, be very excellently grown. We must stop, or we shall fill our pages; but let us hope that whoever can afford it, will erect a frame of this description, and if it gives a tithe of the satisfaction which we expect it will do, one of the great ends of our observation and writing will be gained.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

I KNOW many of your readers look over this department of your work with intense interest, and as a great number now possess the means of keeping tender plants through the winter, a notice of some of the best geraniums that have lately been raised will be of service to those of ample as well as those of moderate means. Of Hoyles's flowers I saw cut specimens, at Birmingham, and very attractive and beautiful they were.

Nonsuch was of good form; top petals having a large dark blotch nearly covering them, with a beautiful shaded crimson margin; three lower petals peach coloured, and on each a spot of crimson, as large as a fourpenny piece, giving it a novel and interesting appearance.

Christabel.—Large flower; the lower petals beautiful peach, with orange tint; upper petals nearly covered with a large blotch, with crimson margin.

Satisfaction.—Good form, lower petals delicate lake, upper ones large dark blotch, crimson margin.

Nandee.—Top petals nearly black, with narrow margin of crimson, almost like the lace of a pink; the lower petals, however, are rather deficient in form; nevertheless, it is a beautiful and distinct flower.

Prince of Orange.—Splendid light scarlet, the top petals rather darker than the lower ones, the blotch not so fine as in the other varieties.

Lord Stanley.—Novel in colour, the lower petals being light purple, the upper ones dark.

At the seedling geranium exhibition, held in Upton Park, the first prize was gained by

Gipsy Bride, raised by R. Foster, Esq. It is of first-rate quality. The lower petals are pink, upper ones dark crimson, with a fine and distinct margin, the centre being white. The contrast of colour, form of flower, and habit of the plant very good.

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The second was awarded to Major Foquette, for

Magnificent.—Though in some respects faulty, still it was worthy of its designation, being a fine rosy scarlet, with large and well-defined blotch on the upper petals.

The third was taken by

Field Marshal (Symons).—A very showy variety, a stout and brilliant flower, rich dark scarlet, the upper petals blotched, but in this point rather deficient.

Aurora's Beam, raised and exhibited by E. Beck, Esq. Though a winner, still this gentleman does not contemplate sending it out; for notwithstanding it has some good points about it, yet he does not consider it by any means so good as other seedlings in his possession.

HARDY SHRUBS.

AMONGST the many beautiful plants introduced from China, by Mr. Fortune, were a quantity of tree pæonies, which, though in some instances not answering the character with which they came, are, nevertheless, very beautiful, and great additions to this splendid tribe. In the *Journal of the Horticultural Society*, two are described as having lately flowered in the garden. One is,

P. Atrosanguinea, with double dark crimson flowers. The foliage is smaller than that of the Papavaracea, and is very handsome. It is said to be the darkest tree pæony in cultivation.

The other is,

P. Moutan Versicolor. The flowers are large, semi-double, and extremely handsome, being deep purple near the base of the petals, and rosy lilac near the margin.

A new hybrid honeysuckle has been raised by Mr. Tonge, specimens of which have been sent to us. It is very handsome, though somewhat similar to Lonicera Brownii. The flowers, however, are brighter than that variety. We understand Mr. T. has a

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large stock of it, and we can safety recommend it as one of the best honeysuckles in cultivation.

Lonicera Flava Superbum.—The flowers are formed in a similar manner to the old Scarlet Trumpet Honeysuckle, but are of a very rich yellow. We have bloomed it in good style this summer, and have no doubt, from what we see of it, that it will be a great favourite.

PERENNIAL HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

PENTSTEMON BICOLOR. *(The Two-coloured Pentstemon.*—A very beautiful plant, producing a profusion of violet-coloured flowers, which are tipped with white. It is perfectly hardy, throws up stems, which are much branched, to the height of two feet, and will flourish in common garden soil.

PENTSTEMON GENTIANOIDES SPLENDIDUS.—This again is a fine thing, though very different in character to the above. The tube is long and large, of a beautiful bright crimson on the outside, and the inside pure white. The contrast thus formed, and the production of its flowers in great profusion, render the plant one of no common interest and very desirable.

POTENTILLA (MAGICIAN).—A beautiful and very large dark crimson variety, with a darker shade at the lower part of each petal; the best of this division of these popular herbaceous plants, the flowers of which, though short-lived, are produced in such profusion as to render them the best of plants for summer embellishment.

DELPHINEUM, COMPACTUM SUPERBUM.—The whole family of perennial larkspurs are pretty. This is a variety we have selected from perhaps a thousand

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seedlings, and was the only one that at all came up to our ideas of excellence. It is of rather dwarf habit, and the flowers are individually much better in form than any single variety we have yet seen; they are nearly round, and the colour a very handsome shaded blue, with a distinct *white bee* in the centre. The flowers forming the spike are produced very closely, touching each other. We have shown it to many florists who have visited our nursery, and they pronounce it to be the best they have yet seen.

FRUITS.

We have, in former numbers, noticed the Stanwick Nectarine and the sweet-kerneled apricot of Ispahan, "The Shuker Para." We must now introduce a new Syrian apricot, called The Kaisha, which has been fruited by J. Warmington, Esq. of Kensington. It is very early; on the 12th of July, 1848, on the same wall with the Moorpark and Turkey apricots, this variety was ripe, whilst they were perfectly green and hard. It is described in the *Journal of the Horticultural Society* as "a valuable early variety for dessert, and probably excellent for preserving. The fruit is roundish, five inches and a half in circumference, and is semitransparent; skin slightly downy, pale citron-coloured where shaded, tinged and marbled with red next the sun; flesh tender, juicy, of a clear citron colour, parting freely from the stone, sugary, and delicious, like well-refined lump sugar, combined with the apricot flavour; stone small and roundish; the kernel sweet, like a nut." Now this, though a small apricot, must prove a great acquisition. From its precocity (earliness), it might bear as a standard tree; if so, it will be highly valuable, for though the fruit might not grow larger than a Greengage, still it would be much sought after for preserving, &c.

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THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

[Under this head we intend to notice all new flowers, fruits, vegetables, instruments, &c. sent for our inspection and opinion, that we conceive worthy of being "sold out." Those of inferior character will be noticed as heretofore, on the cover.]

PARKER'S DIANA PINK.—A fine formed large pink. The specimen sent measured rather more than two inches across. The lace is broad and distinct dark marone; the margin is serrated. Nevertheless it is a variety which will please those who purchase it.

COSTAR'S LOLA MONTES PINK.—This is also a desirable variety. It has smooth petals, and dresses well. The lacing of the flower sent us was very correct, and a bright purplish red.

POTENTILLA.—FORMOSISSIMA.—This beautiful hybrid was raised by Mr. Richard Tongue, of Forton Cottage, near Garstang, from seed of P. Leucochrora, fertilized with P. Formosa, and as it is much more handsome than either parent, Formosissima is not an inappropriate name. It is of large size, yellow, shaded and broadly edged with light red, and is a decidedly good thing, and will be highly esteemed by every lover of good herbaceous plants.

TURNER'S IMPROVED POCKET PRUNING SCISSORS.—We have been repeatedly asked about these very handy and indispensable instruments. No one who has a garden should be without them in his waistcoat pocket. We can speak of them favourably, because we have used them much and often. The improvement on others of a similar kind consists in a peculiar formation of both the holding and the cutting blades, by which means, the shoot of the plant operated upon is less liable to be bruised, by ensuring a cleaner cut.

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NORMAN'S LORD NELSON PICOTEE.—A very beautiful heavy-edged purple, with good pod and broad, stout, and smooth petals; the white very pure, and the marginal colour well defined. This variety will please both north and south country growers.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE DESTRUCTION OF INSECTS, ETC. INJURIOUS TO VEGETATION.

BY JOHN MEARNS, F.H.S.

I FREQUENTLY find people complain that everything in their garden is eaten up by slugs, or that they cannot rear any kind of crops in their garden, but what is spoiled by the grub at the roots. Others complain of the destruction of the gooseberry leaves, by the caterpillar; and both the gardener and the farmer cry out against the turnip fly. Yet with the proper means, all these, with the bug, scale, red spider, green fly, thrip, and other pests, are easily exterminated. Birds also are sad pests sometimes, but may easily be kept in abeyance. If quick lime is sown on the ground, late at night, and again betimes in the morning, all slugs and worms will soon be annihilated. Let it be strewed carefully into every by-place, hole, and corner. Where the lime may be unsightly, strong lime-water may be prepared, by slacking some clods of lime, fresh from the kiln, and when dropped into a powder put it into a tub of cold water, and stir it well up; by the next morning, the lime will have strongly medicated the water, and have settled in sediment at the bottom of the tub, so as to leave the water perfectly clear, when it is to be poured off into another vessel, for use. There should also be traps laid, of leaves, slates, tiles, boards, or

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old mats, over the ground, and by turning these over on the following day, the vermin will be found in their concealment, and by sprinkling them with a small water pot and rose, worms and slugs are soon destroyed.

When I went to Welbeck Abbey, every kind of crop was nearly destroyed by grubs and maggots at the roots. Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, onion, carrot, celery, and every other crop was rendered unfit for table; but as I found plenty of clay and rubbish very near at hand, I had it burnt to ashes, and ere it was cold, I got the ground clear of crops, and had the ashes carted to it, and spread an inch and a half or two inches thick, and pointed lightly in, as we do lime. After this dressing was applied, all the maggots, worms, slugs, &c. vanished very quickly; and in a short time the soil, which was previously sour and cohesive, became sweet and mellow, and the crops clean, healthy, and vigorous.

The destructive ravages of the turnip beetle, or fly, as it is generally called, are readily stayed by quick lime being thrown over the seed, whilst wet, either by artificial means or while the dew is on the ground; and if washed off by a shower, repeat the liming, until the rough leaves are so far advanced as to ensure their safety. In field culture, as soon as the fly has made its appearance, get the lime slacked in readiness, and in the stillness of a calm night, and while the dew is on the ground, scatter the lime over them, from a seed hopper; and if washed off by a shower, repeat the dressing, till the crop appears secure.

The protection of the gooseberry leaves from the destructive ravages of the caterpillar, is effected by dusting dry lime over the trees, sharply, upon the withered leaves. I never have known it fail; and by the time the fruit is fit for gathering, the lime has lost its adhesiveness, and is discharged from the bush. With regard to peaches and vines, as soon as they are pruned, the lights on the roof, and all ready for

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tying in to the trellises, get a thick lime-wash prepared, with a strong lather of soft soap and sulphur, and with this paint every part of the tree, without missing a chink of any kind, or behind the blossom and wood buds. As soon as this coating becomes dry, it is readily seen where the brush has missed any chink, where the eggs and insects are most likely to be laid up, until excited into animation by the genial warmth of the surrounding atmosphere. Work the thick paint into those dark chinks, so as to exclude the air from them, and the insects will all shortly perish. After this is again dry, give the whole another coat of thick paint, to make sure that the eggs and insects are all effectually excluded from the air; and this, if executed with care, will keep off scale, bug, red spider, thrip, or green fly, during the season. In the early stage of forcing, the white tree, at that dull season, is of great importance; as it acts in some degree the part of the absent sun, and the protecting coat of paint is as the glove to the hand, or the clothes to the body, both uniting to encourage the circulation of the sap and the general vigour of the tree. The same dressing may be applied to wall trees, by using soot to conceal the white unsightly appearance on the walls, and it will destroy all animalculæ. In the summer, if any green fly appear, it is destroyed by jerking it in among them, with the fingers, from a basin or bottom pan; and red spider, by syringing strongly with clean or clear water, medicated with lime and sulphur. Dry sulphur dusted over the leaves of all plants where red spiders harbour, will send them off, or destroy them. Mr. Knight, of the Exotic Nursery, has applied a weak glue, with good effect, to dip plants into, that have been infested with insects. Pines are subject to the white mealy bug, the white scaly bug, and the brown scaly bug; but if these are taken in time, they are easily got rid off by the vapour of sulphur, and a high moist temperature; or water, heated to a hundred and twenty degrees, and thrown over

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them, whilst the hot moist temperature is kept up, or placing them in the rank steam of fresh horse dung, will soon destroy them. The process of the operations by which this is all effected is so well known to gardeners, that it is needless to enter into details. A nice and a timely attention to cleanliness is the best way to get rid of these pests, so annoying to the cultivator.

At the South Amateur Society's show, at the Horns, Kennington, there were some seedling anemones exhibited, distinct varieties, of fine colour, well done, and of tall robust habit, raised by a blacksmith of Canterbury, named Morris, who has been many years engaged in the pursuit, but has never parted with any plants. Thos. King, Esq. of the Terrace, Canterbury, knowing Morris, kindly brought the blooms (of which there were a great many) to town, with the view of serving him. Mr. J. Dickson, of Acre-lane, would undertake to procure roots for any one who might wish to grow them.

Balsams in the Open Ground (See page 105).—Some years ago, when I resided at Camberwell, adjoining the grounds of the late Messrs. Buchanan and Olroyd, I saw splendid specimens of these plants. I have a vivid recollection of them, as they were truly magnificent; one in particular, with lavender stripes, measured three feet, at least, in diameter, with a mass of bloom. If those who admire the flowers will try their hand in its cultivation, I am sure they will be well repaid; but they must not let *one* failure deter them from combating the arrival at perfection.—J. Davidson.

I can speak in high terms of the chemical agent named in last year's volume of the *Midland Florist*, for the destruction of the onion maggot, as my crops are entirely saved by its use, whilst those around me

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are going fast. I gave my beds the dressing there recommended, and have only got about one hundred and thirty onions affected in about twenty square yards—I. M., *Little Gonerby, near Grantham.*

SCARNELL'S BIJOU TULIP is thus described in the *Gardener's Journal*:—A splendid new flower, form first-rate, petals of great consistency, perfectly level, smooth on the edges, quite clean at the base, cup usual average, colour brilliant carmine, feather richly defined on a magnificent crystal white ground. This flower is quite distinct in its class, and stands at present unrivalled in its attraction, as a first or second-row rose tulip.

REVIEWS.

THE JOURNAL OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, vol. 4, part 3.

WE are always glad to receive the part of this most valuable work, containing as it does most useful and scientific papers on horticulture and floriculture. There are some hints on the climate of Australia, which were communicated to the vice-secretary, by M. Waller Clifton, Esq. On the growth of the vine in the open air, in that country, he observes, p. 205, "To give you an idea of the growth of the vine here, I need only mention, that on the 6th of September, 1846, I planted at my farm, four hundred two-year-old vine plants, which I procured from Perth, and which, in transitu (their passage), were two months out of the ground, and apparently dried up. Nearly all struck. They were planted in ground trenched three feet deep. In June, 1847, they were pruned close down; in January, 1848, they produced a considerable number of fine grapes;

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and when I pruned them in June last (1848) I cut off from many shoots seven yards in length. At this moment they are just bursting forth, and from the enormous show of fruit, I think there will be a ton of grapes on them in January. In my sand garden here, on the shore of the inlet, their growth is hardly less. The fig is equally luxuriant and prolific. I shall have bushels and bushels, on young trees, only planted four years, and now eight and ten feet high. Of vines we have the following kinds:—Sweetwater, Muscat of Alexandria, Red and White Constantia, White Hamburg, Wortley Hall, Crystal, and some others not accurately known; *but we are especially deficient in black grapes.* In figs, I have White Marseilles, Brown Ischia, and what is called here the *Turkey*, but which is, I think, the Brunswick, or Madonna. Of potatoes, we (the colony generally) only have a red sort, I believe the Scotch Red; and I have a few Ash-leaved Kidneys and Pinkeyes. The peach, nectarine, and apricot thrive here wonderfully. I am by degrees getting them, but generally peaches are inferior sorts, raised here from seed, and bear the third year. The black currant and raspberry might do here, though they do not at Perth. Our melons, cucumbers, and vegetable marrow come here to a perfection I never saw in Europe. I gathered the Netted Romana Melon, in my open sand garden, last year, weighing nineteen pounds and a quarter."

From the preceding extract, our readers will perceive how applicable this fine country (Australia) is for the cultivation of fruits, &c. and we heartily wish we had gone there twenty years ago.

The Historic Times.

We have to thank the editor for his continued courtesy, and can truly say, the paper is highly interesting, instructive, and amusing. The present

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number, for July 6, is especially interesting to the lovers of plants, there being two views (exterior and interior) of the great palmarum (where palms are cultivated) in Kew Gardens; independent of which, there are four engravings, on the last page, of native heaths, the Ericas Vulgaris, Cineria, and Tetralix; also the Buck or Bog Bean (Menyanthus trifoliata), a beautiful aquatic or water plant. As an illustrated family newspaper, we can strongly recommend it; and at the same time we advise the editor to continue his notices of native plants, so well and ably begun.

THE FLORIST. By E. Beck.

A GROUP of those beautiful and attractive flowers, cinerarias, forms the embellishment to the 19th number of this interesting work. The varieties are, *Kendall's Princess*, white, with dark lilac or deep purple tip; *Kendall's Sanspareil*, white, heavily margined with beautiful blue; *Kendall's Richard Cobden*, deep shaded purple; and *Henderson's Carlotta Grisi*, white, with deep lilac edge. They are all full-sized and distinctly-marked flowers, and appear, from the drawing, pre-eminent in point of form. The articles are of general interest, and include, Philosophy of Florists' Flowers; The Lady's Page; Old Mills, with a beautiful wood engraving; Open Tulip Show at York, with Reports on the London Societies; Fancy Pelargoniums, &c. From the last article we extract a list of all the best fancy geraniums or pelargoniums now grown:—

Reine des Francais	Rubra	Quercifolia superba
Jenny Lind	Picturata	Captivation
Empress	Defiance	Delight
Formosa	Hero of Surrey	Magnifica
Ne plus ultra	Statiaskii	

To these we may add a sweet pretty variety, of incomparable form, called Jeanette. The above list, we hope, will help our readers, in adding to their collections.

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Part III.

QUERIES.

Having the care of a new garden, which is made of old pasture turf, and is quite full of that troublesome pest the wireworm, if you, or some of your correspondents, in your next, will favour me with a remedy, you will oblige

A YOUNG GARDENER.

I shall be glad to know in what way I must propagate my hollyhocks. I bought many fine sorts, last season, and find, that by letting them bloom strong, there is but little increase at the root. An answer in the next number will oblige yours truly, H. S.

I have piped a quantity of pinks, but find them most sadly destroyed by a small worm or grub. It is cream coloured, with a brown head. My pansy cuttings, which have been put out, I often find pulled from the ground, and drawn together in a heap. If you, or any of your correspondents, can tell me how to remedy this state of things, you will confer a great favour on

A YOUNG FLORIST.

I have been advised to give my garden, which is a strong loam, and which this hot weather bakes very hard, a dressing of lime and manure. I have also been told that this is wrong. Will you please to set me right in this particular? and also say what you think the best application for such soil. S. T.

What will be the best tree to form a shade in a short time? I have some unsightly buildings I wish to block out. If you can give a list of a few trees, the largest size at which they can be moved with safety, and the probable expense, you will very much oblige me.

Birmingham. HENRY SMITH.

Being a young florist, and anxious to make a few additions to my tulip bed, you would much oblige me by giving the names of eight of each class, suitable to the pocket of a working man, in your next number. A. S.

[ROSES.—Lady Middleton, Heroine, Flamed Triomphe Royale, Camellius, Aglaia, Catherine, La Vandycken, Count de Vergennes.

BIZARRES.—Royal Sovereign, Magnum Bonum, Captain White, Polyphemus, Pilot, Earl St. Vincent, Surpass Catafalque, Lord Milton.

BYBLŒMENS.—Violet Alexander, Princess Royal, Lilliard, Norwich Baguet, Criterion, Van Amburg, Bacchus, Lady Flora Hastings.]

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A list of a dozen or two of the best new hardy perennials, with their heights and colours, will oblige an amateur; for I find that many of the new annuals have a very weedy appearance.

Holbeach. R. S.

Will pinks get more double as they increase in age? I have some seedlings, which are nicely marked, but they are too thin. I don't like to throw them away, if there is any chance of improvement.

Westdean. W. Mason.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Balsams.—Our correspondent is right, and his employer wrong. Balsams may be grown six feet high, by shifting from pot to pot, and by pursuing a judicious course of management. We are sorry to find his endeavours meet with such poor encouragement.

Ginger Wine.—W. B.—The following is the receipt of a friend of ours, who is famous for this most wholesome of made wines:—To each gallon of water three pounds of lump sugar, *which boil* for half an hour, taking off any impurity that may rise. Pare two lemons, and bruize one ounce of ginger, over which the liquor must be poured. When lukewarm, squeeze in the lemons, adding the pulp. To this, two tablespoonsful of yeast must be added. Let it work three days, and then put it into a barrel, adding half a pound of chopped raisins to each gallon. After the space of three days stop it down, and at the end of six weeks bottle off.

Asparagus.—C. I. P.—We have no doubt of the efficacy of salt. Nitrate of soda we have not tried; but to onions it is beneficial, both in keeping away the grub and forwarding their growth.

Heaths.—A Waterford Subscriber.—Those cuttings immediately proceeding from the old wood are best. The pots to receive the cuttings should be nearly filled with drainage, over which place some moss, and then fill up with silver sand, which may be pressed down hard, and well watered, previous to putting in the cuttings. A bell glass may be put over them. The glass should be wiped frequently, to prevent the cuttings damping off. They should be placed in a shady part of the greenhouse or stove, and occasionally watered. Geraniums and pelargoniums belong to the same family; the former are generally natives of temperate, while the latter come from warmer latitudes.

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR AUGUST.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

FORMERLY, the 12th of August was considered the best time to sow *cabbage seed*; we would advise it to be put in earlier, in fact, *immediately*. Sprotborough, Improved Nonpareil, Enfield Market, are amongst the best, whilst Waite's King of Cabbage is just now advocated as being superior to others; time will tell this, as many growers, especially in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, intend cultivating it in good style, to test its merits.

Peas may be put in, for the sake of a late crop, which is always valuable. The early varieties of marrows will prove best for this purpose.

Broccoli, savoys, Brussels sprouts, and other winter greens, should be planted on spare ground, whenever opportunity serves. No yard of land need be left unoccupied. There are several sorts of winter greens that deserve more extended cultivation, such as the Asparagus Kail, which some also call "Ragged Jack;" the Hardy Dark Purple (which boils beautifully green) and the Variegated Broccoli, extremely handsome, much used for garnishing, and also a very excellent vegetable.

Potatoes.—Wherever an appearance of disease is observed, it will be advisable to cut off the tops close to the surface, and draw a little soil over the roots, with the hoe. We did so last season, with manifest advantage.

Onions having, this season, from various causes, failed in many places, we would advise a good breadth of Tripoli to be sown, as it is probable they may be scarce, during next summer. We have lately seen these onions exhibited by small allotment holders in very fine style.

Lettuces, for standing the winter, should also be sown this month. We have before recommended the Bath, which is a good brown Coss lettuce, and very hardy. The Brown Dutch, and Hardy Green are also good, but spread much on the ground; at all events, we give the preference to the first-named.

Attend to *celery plants* in the trenches, and give liquid manure, when you have it to spare. This ought to be the "mainstay" of the cottage gardener, and may always be applied advantageously. When the value of urine, soapsuds, &c. is more known, and their application better understood, much labour, both for man and horse, will be saved, and gardens will be rendered much more productive.

Towards the end of the month, sow *cauliflowers* for standing the winter. We would not advise these being sown on rich land; the shorter they are grown, and the more close they are *in grain*, if we may use the term, the better. Long-legged gross plants cannot resist the frost, like those which have been more hardily raised.

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FLOWER GARDEN.

Such plants as *aquilegas*, some of the *phloxes*, and *polyanthuses*, with many others, will now be ripening their seed, which should be carefully gathered on a dry day, and put into small paper bags, with the name and date written on the exterior, and any necessary remark, as to whether hybridized or not, &c. Generally speaking, it is best to keep seeds in their capsule, or seed vessel. *Aquilega*, or *columbine*, is best sown as soon as ripe; the same may be said of *anemone seed*. This last will vegetate, and stand the winter well, and will bloom most profusely the ensuing spring, though the roots may not individually be larger than a pea.

Seedling hollyhocks will now be flowering. Mark those of good properties, for future propagation, and gather seed from those only; it is worse than useless to gather it promiscuously.

Pink pipings should be planted out where they are to bloom next year, in a well-prepared and rich bed. They always lace best when planted in the autumn. When there is a superabundance of rooted pipings, they should be put on a reserved bed, to fill up vacancies, &c. We have bloomed a few *Oxford pinks* good this season, and would recommend Kirtland's Lord Valentia and Looker's Achilles; the latter being more in the midland counties style than the former.

Carnations will now be in full bloom. Their shading, carding, &c. will occupy the florist well. Cross impregnation must not be forgotten. We would advise the youthful amateur to practise *dressing* whenever opportunity serves. "Practice makes perfect," and it is an accomplishment that every one should endeavour to attain. He who can dress flowers well, that is *fairly*, has always a better chance than he who cannot. It is possible that the amateur may have run or self-coloured flowers; these, if he has any clean stock of the sort, should not be layered, though we have known them to return to their primitive colour, when planted out in poor soil.

As for *auriculas*, if the frame described in our present number is adopted, we think much of the difficulty attending their cultivation will be removed. Regular watering, and keeping free from weeds and green fly, will be the routine to be attended to during the present month.

Dahlias.—In the regular course of things, this splendid autumnal flower next demands attention. Trapping insects in various ways must be strictly attended to. The means have so often been noticed, that we hope our readers know how to go about it in a proper manner. Inferior buds should be removed, and those plants which bear small flowers should not be allowed to carry too many buds, whilst those which generally bear them coarse and large, may be allowed to mature them all.

Many amateurs and artizans now try to bud briers which they obtained from the hedges last autumn. Rose buds will grow, whether the wood is removed or not, though we generally take

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it away. In budding roses, insert the bud on the shoot of the present year, and as near to the stem as possible. If there is part of the old stock above the shoot, to the height of six or nine inches, it will do next season to attach the shoots from the bud to, and thus prevent them being blown out by the wind.

Now is a good time to layer *dwarf roses*, in the shoots of the present season.

Bud *plums, cherries, peaches, nectarines, apples, pears,* &c.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

AURICULA SHOW,

At the Copley Arms, Skircoat Green, near Halifax, April 30.

Premier Prize.—Colonel Taylor, M. Mansley.

Green-edged.

1 Colonel Taylor, T. Meller.
2 Pollitt's Standard, M. Mansley.
3 Lady Ann Wilbraham, R. Summerscales.
4 Shakspere, T. Meller.
5 Barlow's King, R. Summers.
6 Jubilee, M. Mansley.
7 Morris Green Hero, R. Summers.
8 Little John, M. Mansley.

Grey-edged.

1 Mary Ann, M. Mansley.
2 Complete, R. Summers.
3 Ringleader, ditto.
4 Lancashire Hero, T. Meller.
5 Ne plus ultra, ditto.
6 Conqueror of Europe, R. Summers.
7 Beeston's Fair Flora, ditto.
8 Waterloo, M. Mansley.

White-edged.

1 Catherina, T. Mellor.
2 Hepworth's Briton, R. Summers.
3 Countess Wilton, M. Mansley.
4 Ashworth's Regular, ditto.
5 Lily of the Valley, R. Summers.
6 Pott's Regulator, T. Meller.
7 Chancellor, R. Summers.
8 Queen Victoria, M. Mansley.

Selfs.

1 Mansley's Othello, T. Meller.
2 Metropolitan, R. Summers.
3 Blue Bonnet, T. Meller.
4 Lord Lee, ditto.
5 True Blue, R. Summers.
6 Lord Primate, ditto.
7 Flora's Flag, M. Mansley.
8 Lord Howe, ditto.

Alpines.

1 Fair Rosamond, M. Mansley.
2 Queen Victoria, R. Summers.
3 Fair Ellen, M Mansley.
4 Seedling, T. Meller.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Seedling, R. Summers.
2 Beauty of England, M. Mansley.
3 Sovereign, ditto.
4 Exile, ditto.
5 Crownshaw, ditto.
6 Alexander, ditto.
7 Bang Europe, R. Summers.
8 Seedling, ditto.

AURICULA SHOW,

At Mr. Henry Talt's, the Boar's Head Inn, Skircoat Green, near Halifax, May 1.

Premier Prize.—Fletcher's Mary Ann, M. Mansley.

Green-edged.

1 Colonel Taylor, M. Mansley.
2 Moore's Jubilee, ditto.
3 Pollitt's Standard, ditto.
4 Barlow's King, R. Summerscales.
5 Shakspere, T. Meller.
6 Lady Ann Wilbraham, ditto.
7 Morris Green Hero, ditto.
8 Imperator, ditto.

Grey-edged.

1 Mary Ann, M. Mansley.
Complete, R. Summers.
3 Ringleader, R. Summers.
4 Lancashire Hero, T. Meller.
5 Conqueror, ditto.
6 Ne plus ultra, ditto.
7 Fair Flora, R. Summers.
8 Waterloo, M. Mansley.

White-edged.

1 Catherina, T. Meller.
2 Briton, R. Summers.
3 Countess Wilton, M. Mansley.
4 Ashworth's Regular, ditto.
5 Lily of the Valley, R. Summers.

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6 Pott's Regulator, T. Meller.
7 Chancellor, R. Summers.
8 Dean's Regulator, ditto.

Selfs.

1 Othello, T. Meller.
2 Metropolitan, R. Summers
3 Blue Bonnet, ditto.
4 Flora's Flag, ditto.
5 Lord Lee, T. Meller.
6 True Blue, R. Summers.
7 Lord Primate, W. Mansley.
8 Oddy's Rest, T. Meller.

Alpines.

1 Fair Rosamond, T. Meller.
2 Fair Ellen, M. Mansley.
3 Seedling, T. Mellor.
4 Ditto ditto.

POLYANTHUSES.

Premier Prize.—Crownshaw's Exile, M. Mansley.

1 Exile, R. Summers.
2 Beauty of England, M. Mansley.
3 Seedling, R. Summers.
4 Eclipse, ditto.
5 Alexander, M. Mansley.
6 Sovereign, ditto.
7 Bang Europe, R. Summers.
8 Seedling, ditto.

FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

The members of the Felton Union of Florists and Horticulturists held their annual exhibition of auriculas, polyanthuses, hyacinths, and vegetables, being their first show for the season, on Thursday, May 3, at Mr. Cookson's, the Red Lion Inn, Felton, when the prizes were awarded as follows:—

AURICULAS.—The 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th prizes to James Thompson, Esq. Morpeth, for Lancashire Hero, Taylor's Ploughboy, Lightbody's Star of Bethlehem, and Sykes's Complete; and the 2nd and 6th to George Cockburn, Esq. Alnwick, for Grime's Privateer and Page's Champion.

POLYANTHUSES.—The 1st, 2nd, 3d, and 5th prizes to Mr. J. Crossling, gardener to George Burton, Esq. Felton Park, for Nicholson's King, Pearson's Alexander, Buck's George IV. and Gallon's Captivator; the 4th to James Thompson, Esq. for Thompson's Mrs. Mitford; and the 6th to John Grahamaley, Esq. Felton, for Collier's Princess Royal. The prize for the best seedling polyanthus was awarded to Mr. Crossling, for a very beautiful variety, which he named Crossling's Nunnykirk.

HYACINTHS.—The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes to James Thompson, Esq. for Grootvoorst, Pasquin, and Anna Maria.

VEGETABLES.—The best six stems of leeks, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, to Mr. Wm. Scott, Felton. Best eighteen radishes, 1st prize, to Mr. T. Fenwick, Felton; 2nd and 3rd, to James Thompson, Esq. The best two heads of cauliflower broccoli, 1st and 2nd prizes, to Mr. John Cookson, Red Lion Inn; 3rd, to Mr. T. Fenwick. An extra prize was awarded to Mr. Fenwick, for some very large rhubarb (Myatt's Victoria); and another to Mr. John Robson, for some very fine cabbages.

Altogether the show was very good, and, considering how difficult it is to cultivate these early flowers, especially in such stormy weather as we have had of late, proves how indefatigable the florists of this district continue; while the excellent vegetables exhibited were highly creditable to the amateur horticulturists, and were very much admired.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Stephen Plant, Commercial Buildings, Stoke-on-Trent, May 19.

Premier Prize (Feathered).—Bienfait, S. Plant.
Premier Prize (Flamed).—Charbonnier, S. Plant.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Sultana, W. Layington.
2 Wellington, ditto.
3 Needham's Antony, S. Plant.
4 Firebrand, ditto
5 Trafalgar, J. Beech.
6 Black Prince, J. Plant.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Charbonnier, J. Beech.
2 Catafalque, J. Plant.
3 Lord Milton, T. Hollins.
4 Sun, J. Plant.
5 Charles X., S. Plant.
6 Wolstenholms, J. Plant.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Toot, J. Copeland.
2 Unknown, J. Plant.
3 Violet Winner, T. Hollins.
4 Unknown, S. Plant.
5 Prince Albert, T. Hollins.
6 Maid of Orleans, ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Toot, S. Plant.
2 Bienfait, W. Layington.

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3 Triumph de Lisle, S. Plant.
4 Baguet, W. Layington.
5 Violet Font Noir, J. Plant.
6 La Belle Narene, W. Layington.

Feathered Roses.

1 Prince William, W. Layington.
2 Triumph Royal, J. Plant.
3 Walworth, T. Hollins.
4 Rose Cerise, S Plant.
5 Wilhelmina, W. Layington.
6 La Intresant, S. Plant.

Flamed Roses.

1 Vesta, J. Copeland.
2 Unique, S. Plant.
3 Lord Hill, S. Plant.
4 Model of Perfection, T. Hollins.
5 Walworth, W. Layington.
6 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Polyphemus, S. Plant.
2 Duke of Devonshire, T. Hollins.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Plant.
2 Prince Albert, T. Hollins.

Rose Breeders.

1 Duchess of Newcastle, T. Hollins.
2 Lady Crewe, S. Plant.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. S. Plant, Commercial Buildings, Stoke-on-Trent, May 21.

Premier Prize (Feathered).—Dolittle, T. Hollins.
Premier Prize (Flamed).—Aglaia, T. Heath.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Magnum Bonum, R. Heath.
2 Comte Villaflora, E. Poulson.
3 Sultana, T. Hollins.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Emperor of China, E. Poulson.
2 Wolstenholms, ditto.
3 Lord Melbourne, T. Hollins.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, R. Heath.
2 May Queen, T. Bromley.
3 Bienfait, B. Heath.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Duke of Cumberland, E. Poulson.
2 Unknown, E. Poulson.
3 Princess Charlotte, S. Plant.

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte de Vergennes, R. Heath.
2 Heroine, S. Plant.
3 Lady Crewe, E. Poulson.

Flamed Roses.

1 Lord Hill, R. Heath.
2 Lady Crewe, T. Hollins.
3 Comte de Vergennes, E. Poulson.

Breeders.

Bizarre—Sunbeam, R. Heath.
Byblœmen—Prince Albert, T. Bromley.
Rose—Duchess of Newcastle, T. Hollins

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. James Beech, Rising Sun Inn, Newcastle, Staffordshire, May 26.

Premier Prize (Feathered).—Surpass Catafalque, J. Johnson.
Premier Prize (Flamed).—Aglaia, T. Hollins.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Pass Catafalque, W. Layington.
2 Magnum, S. Plant.
3 Goud Beurs, ditto.
4 Sultana, D. Brown.
5 Leopoldina, J. Johnson.
6 General Blucher, T. Hollins.
7 Trafalgar, T. Boot.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Albion, S. Plant.
2 Wolstenholms, ditto.
3 Grace Darling (Gresswood) T. Hollins
4 Surpass Catafalque, D. Brown.
5 Howard's Seedling, S. Plant.
6 Rufus, T. Hollins.
7 Charbonnier, S. Plant.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, T. Hollins.
2 Countess of Hunsdon, S. Plant.
3 Bienfait, T. Hollins.
4 Ambassador, T. Boot.
5 Duc de Bordeaux, T. Hollins.
6 Violet Winner, T. Hollins.
7 Phœnix, T. Murray.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Violet Rougeatre, T. Hollins.
2 Prince Elie, ditto.
3 Sable Rex, ditto.
4 Chellaston, S. Plant.
5 Lady Avery, ditto.
6 Princess Charlotte, ditto.
7 Unknown, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, J Johnson.
2 Comte de Vergnnes, T. Murray.
3 Aglaia, T. Hollins.
4 Dolittle, J. Beech.
5 Lady Crewe, S. Plant.
6 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto.
7 Walworth, W. Layington.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triumph Royal, S Plant.
2 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Johnson.
3 Unique, T. Hollins.
4 Lord Hill, ditto.

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5 Boadicea, J. Johnson.
6 Turner's Lord Hill, ditto.
7 Unknown, T. Bromley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Devonshire, T. Hollins.
2 Charbonnier, S. Plant.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Chellaston, S. Plant.
2 Ditto, T. Boot.

Rose Breeders.

1 Walworth, E. Eardley.
2 Lady Crewe, T. Boot.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. E Hodgson, Lomax Arms, Great Harwood, Lancashire, May 26.

Best Pan of Six Tulips.—Charles X. Bienfait, Comte, Abercromby, La Vandycken, Thomas Chippendale, of Tottleworth.
Premier Prize.—Charles X., R. Houseman.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Old Catafalque, R. Houseman.
2 Charles X. J. Bramley.
3 Firebrand, J. Morehouse.
4 Catafalque Superior, T. Whalley.
5 Fabius, T. Chippendale.
6 Wellington, ditto.
7 Trafalgar, J. Baron.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Abercromby, R. Houseman.
2 Charbonnier, T. Chippendale.
3 Charles X. ditto.
4 Polyphemus, E. Hodgson.
5 Paganini, R. Houseman.
6 Albion, T. Whalley.
7 Lustre, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Houlker,
2 Buckley Beauty, J. Bramley.
3 Baguet, T. Whalley,
4 La Belle Narene, T. Chippendale.
5 Grotius, A. Bentley.
6 Grotius, T. Whalley.
7 Duc de Bordeaux, T. Chippendale.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero, J. Baron.
2 Bienfait, ditto.
3 Marquis, R. Houseman.
4 La Belle Narene, J. Bromley.
5 Pyramid, R. Houseman.
6 Violet Cook, T. Chippendale.
7 Tout, T. Whalley.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, T. Chippendale.
2 Comte, R. Houseman.
3 La Belle Nanettte, T. Chippendale.
4 Hero of the Nile, T. Whalley.
5 Newcastle, T. Chippendale.
6 Dolittle, A. Bentley.
7 Due Roi, R. Houseman.

Flamed Roses.

1 Reid's 38, J. Bromley.
2 La Vandycken, R. Houseman.
3 Rose Unique, T. Whalley.
4 Rose Vesta, T. Gibson.
5 Newcastle, W. Hodgson.
6 Triumph, R. Birtwistle.
7 Aglaia, T. Gibson.

Breeders.

Premier—Sir H. Pottinger, J. Houlker.
Bizarre—Pilot (Gibbons), T. Whalley.
Byblœmen—Pottinger, E. Hodgson.
Rose—Mosambique, J. Houlker.

Selfs.

Min d'Or, R. Birtwistle.
White Perfection, R. Houseman.
Double Bizarre, J. Baron.
Marriage de ma Fille, A. Bentley.

Judges.—Messrs. T, Birtwell, R. Norris, and J. Foulds.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of John Bridgwood, Heathcote Arms Inn, Longton, May 26.

Feathered Bizarres.

Premier—Royal Sovereign, A. Shaw.
1 Magnum Bonum, ditto.
2 Rising Sun, ditto.
3 Trafalgar, J. Salt.
4 Emperor Charles, ditto.
5 Patriarch, A. Shaw.
6 Duc de Savoy, J. Salt.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, J Salt.
2 Rubens, E. Poulson.
3 Charbonnier, A. Shaw.
4 Catafalque, E. Poulson.
5 Royal Sovereign, A. Shaw.
6 Magnum Bonum, J. Bridgwood.

Feathered Byblœmens.

Premier—Bienfait, J. Salt.
1 Bienfait, A. Shaw.
2 Ambassador, ditto.
3 La Belle Narene, ditto.
4 Rob Roy, Edward Poulson.
5 Comte de Flanders. A. Shaw.
6 Toot, J. Salt.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Prince Elie, A. Shaw.
2 Alexander Magnus, E. Poulson.
3 Rubens, A. Shaw.
4 Princess Charlotte, E. Poulson.
5 Bienfait, J. Bridgwood.
6 La Belle Narene, A. Shaw.

Feathered Roses.

Premier—Dolittle, E. Poulson.
1 Dolittle, J. Bridgwood.
2 L'Abre de Diana, A. Shaw.
3 Hero of the Nile, ditto.
4 Comte de Vergennes, ditto.

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5 Walworth, J. Bridgwood.
6 Lady Crewe, A. Shaw.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triumph Royal, A. Shaw.
2 Rose Guerrier, J. Salt.
3 Georgius Tertius, ditto.
4 Lord Hill, A. Shaw.
5 Rose Unique, E. Poulson.
6 Manteau Ducal, ditto.

Judges.—Henry Penson, Annchurch, near Trentham; and John Bridgwood, Longton.

THE LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY

Held their annual exhibition of tulips, at the house of Mr. William Dobbings, Golden Cock Inn, Kirk-gate, Leeds, on Monday, May 28. The judges, Mr. Chippendale (Tottleworth), Mr. Bastow (Leeds), and Mr. Hudson (Enfield), awarded the prizes as follows:—

Premier Bloom.—Charles X., R. White.

First Pan.—Charles X. Polyphemus, Bienfait, Incomparable, Voerhelm's Incomparable, Lady Crewe, Rose Unique, Min d'Or, R. Mitchell.

Second Pan.—Surpass Catafalque, Lord Brougham, Troletta, Queen Victoria, Comte de Vergennes, Triumph Royal, seedling breeder, W. Chadwick.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., E. Mitchell.
2 Surpass Catafalque, W. Chadwick.
3 Crown Prince, ditto.
4 Goud Beurs, ditto.
5 Dutch Catafalque, J. Fryer.
6 Duc de Savoy, ditto.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Carlo Dolce, E. Mitchell.
2 Lord Brougham, W. Chadwick.
3 Rufus, J. Smith.
4 Don Carlos, W. Chadwick.
5 Victory, G. Wood.
6 Polyphemus, J. Smith.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Troletta, W. Chadwick.
2 Bienfait Incomparable, E. Mitchell.
3 La Belle Narene, W. Chadwick.
4 Bacchus, ditto.
5 Royal George, E. Mitchell.
6 Incomparable, J. Fryer.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Voerhelm's Incomparable, E. Mitchell
2 Bienfait, J. Fryer.
3 Alcoran, W. Chadwick.
4 Baguet, ditto.
5 Lawrence's Friend, J. Smith.
6 Rubens, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, E. Mitchell.
2 Comte de Vergennes, W. Chadwick.
3 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Fryer.
4 Rose Aglaia, J. Smith.
5 Brilliant, W. Chadwick.
6 Roi de Muse, ditto.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triumph Royal, W. Chadwick.
2 Rose Unique, E. Mitchell.
3 Lord Hill, W. Chadwick.
4 Pearson's Matilda, G. Wood.
5 Walworth, ditto.
6 Iphigenia, ditto.

Selfs.

1 Roi Min d'Or, E. Mitchell.
2 White Flag, J. Fryer.
3 Desdemona, ditto.
4 Sovereign, G. Wood.
5 Cotherstone, J. Fryer.
6 Golden Hero, W. Chadwick.

Breeders.

1 Beauty, W. Chadwick.
2 Polyphemus, J. Fryer.
3 Seedling, W. Chadwick.
4 Newcastle, E. Mitchell.
5 Roi de Siam, G. Wood.
6 Gibbons's Seedling, E. Mitchell.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Bennett's, Ilkeston, May 29, between the Stapleford and Ilkeston florists. The judges were Mr. John Oldham, of Beeston; and Mr. Wm. Lee, of Lenton.

The first pan was won by the Stapleford and Sandiacre growers, with Victory, Captain White, Lilliard, Baguet, Rose Sherwood, and Mrs. Wilmot.

The second pan was won by the Ilkeston and Heanor growers, with Platoff, Captain White, Baguet, Violet Waller, Heroine, and Triumph Royal.

Feathered Bizarres.

Premier.—Magnum Bonum, J. Brown, Ilkeston.
1 Magnum Bonum, J. Atkin, sen. Stapleford.
2 Grand Duke, ditto.
3 Charles X., R. Wade, Ilkeston.
4 Pass Perfect Davy, J. Atkin, jun. Stapleford.
5 Platoff, R. Wade.
6 Victory, J. Atkin, sen.

Flamed Bizarres.

Premier—Polyphemus, J. Antony, Heanor.
1 Pilot, J. Antony.
2 Victory, J. Atkin sen.
3 Albion, R. Wade.
4 Unknown, ditto.

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5 Unknown, Dalley, Stapleford.
6 Earl of Warwick, J. Atkin.

Feathered Byblœmens.

Premier—Ambassador, J. Atkin, jun.
1 Lawrence's Friend, J. Brown.
2 Washington, J. Atkin, sen.
3 Unknown, J. Brown.
4 Washington, J. Atkin, sen.
5 Lilliard, A. Towle, Stapleford.
6 Partout, J. Atkin, sen.

Flamed Byblœmens.

Premier—Grand Triumph, Dalley.
1 Incomparable, ditto.
2 Countess of Broxtowe, J. Atkin, sen.
3 Bienfait, Dalley.
4 Violet Waller, J. Atkin, sen.
5 Grand Triumph, J. Atkin, jun.
6 Violet Alexander, J. Atkin, sen.

Feathered Roses.

Premier—Heroine, J. Antony.
1 Triumph Royal, J. Atkin, sen.
2 Heroine, Dalley.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Atkin, jun.
4 Triumph Royal, J. Brown.
5 Lady Middleton, R. Wade.
6 Lady Crewe, J. Atkin, sen.

Flamed Roses.

Premier—Hebe, J. Atkin, sen.
1 Vesta, ditto.
2 Hebe, ditto.
3 Unique, T. Greasley, Sandiacre.
4 Aglaia, R. Wade.
5 Vesta, ditto.
6 Mrs. Wilmott, J. Brown.

Selfs.

Premier—Victory, J. Atkin, sen.
1 Amelia, J. Antony.
2 Seedling, J. Atkin, jun.
3 Ditto ditto.

LEICESTER FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The first public exhibition of the above society was held on Tuesday, the 30th of May, at the Exchange Rooms, in the Market-place. From the fact of tulips having been seriously injured in some of the metropolitan as well as provincial collections, a first-rate display of these flowers was not looked for, in addition to which, three cultivators did not stage a single bloom; however, no less than twelve pans were entered for competition, independent of the blooms in classes; and it was gratifying to find the result perfectly satisfactory, besides indicating a sufficiency of cultivators to give effect to the society's exhibitions.

The florists are evidently studying their own interests, in endeavouring to dispel the supposed mysteries of management to parties visiting their shows; and in pointing out the requisite qualities constituting perfection, they do much to induce growers to become competitors, many of whom have hitherto been deterred by the supposed difficulties attending the process of cultivation.

Messrs. Walker, Coysh, and Holland availed themselves of the opportunity offered to send plants, and although it may appear invidious to select particular productions, where the collections themselves were extremely interesting, yet we cannot help recording our admiration of Mr. Coysh's beautiful fancy pelargonium, as well as the superb blooms on Mr. Holland's Gesneria splendens. Mr. Walker's cucumbers attracted much attention; and Mr. Billington's Victoria rhubarb created a desire to test its excellence. Mr. Wood, of the Coppice, near Nottingham, who officiated as one of the judges, took a sample home with him, to exhibit as a specimen of superior cultivation. Mr. Wood, assisted by Mr. Donaldson, gardener to C. B. Robinson, Esq. were the judges, and below are their awards.

TULIPS.

Pans of Six Blooms.—1. Hutton's Optimus, Lawrence's Polyphemus, Feathered Triomphe Royale, Gibbons's Grace Darling, Norwich Baguet, and Flamed Triomphe Royal, R. Marris. 2. Norwich Baguet, Flamed Triomphe Royale, Magnum Bonum, Duchess of Clarence, Lawrence's Polyphemus, and Gibbons's Grand Sultan, T. Galloway. 3. Norwich Baguet, Violet Alexander, Magnum Bonum, Triomphe Royale, La Vandycken, and Comte Platoff, G. Evans. 4. Norwich Baguet, Gibbons's Pilot, Triomphe Royale, Old Dutch Catafalque, Roi de Siam, and Aglaia, J. Cook. 5. Grandeur Superbe, Walworth, Clarke's Lavinia, Sherwood Rose, Magnum Bonum, and Imperatrix Florum, G. Hudson.

Pans of Three Blooms.—Gibbons's Pilot, Gibbons's Maid of Orleans, and Strong's Duchess of Kent, T. Galloway. 2. Violet Alexander, Charbonnier Noir, and Triomphe Royale, R. Marris. 3. Violet Alexander, Lawrence's Polyphemus, and Triomphe Royale, F. W. Hollyoake. 4. Violet Alexander, Magnum Bonum, and Hero of the Nile, G. Evans. 5. Violet Alexander, Magnum Bonum, and Turner's Lord Hill, Rev. S. Wigg. 6. Gibbons's Alice Gray, Lord Milton, and Triomphe Royal, G. Hudson. 7. Gibbons's Seedling, Charbonnier Noir, and Aglaia, J. Cooke.

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Feathered Bizarres.
1 Sir Sidney Smith, J. Cooke.
2 Hutton's Optimus, R. Marris.
3 Captain Sleigh, J. Cooke.
4 Magnum Bonum, G. Evans.
5 Magnum Bonum, G. Hudson.
6 Magnum Bonum, T. Galloway.
7 Optimus, G. Evans.
8 Platoff, J. Cooke.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Sir Sidney Smith, R. Marris.
2 Captain White, ditto.
3 Polyphemus, ditto.
4 Gibbons's Pilot, F. W. Hollyoake.
5 Polyphemus, R. Marris.
6 Albion, F. W. Hollyoake.
7 Platoff, G. Hudson.
8 Shakspere, J. Cooke.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Norwich Baguet, R. Marris.
2 Ambassador, ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Violet Alexander, T. Galloway.
2 Incomp. le Grande, F. W. Hollyoake.
3 Bienfait, J. Cooke.
4 Gibbons's Prince Albert, R. Marris.
5 Violet Alexander, T. Galloway.
6 Queen of Violets, ditto.
7 Meta, R. Marris.
8 Violet Alexander, ditto.

Feathered Roses.
1 Hero of the Nile, T. Galloway.
2 Triomphe Royale, R. Marris.
3 Ditto ditto.
4 Ditto, T. Galloway.
5 Hero of the Nile, ditto.
6 Tromphe Royale, ditto.
7 Hero of the Nile, F. W. Hollyoake.
8 Triomphe Royale, J. Cooke.

Flamed Roses.
1 Triomphe Royale, R. Marris.
2 Vesta, W. Mitchell.
3 Sherwood Rose, G. Hudson.
4 Lord Hill, Rev. S. Wigg.
5 Triomphe Royale, J. Cooke.
6 Camillus, R. Marris.
7 Unique, F. W. Hollyoake.
8 Triomphe Royale, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Linnæus (seedling), R. Marris.
2 Aurea (seedling), ditto.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Criterion, J. Cooke.
2 Gibbons's Purple Perfection, R. Marris.
3 Seedling, ditto.

Rose Breeders.
1 Anastasia, J. Cooke.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Seedling, R. Marris.

PANSIES.—First Pan of Twelve, W. Cox; second ditto, T. Galloway. First Pan of Six, T. Galloway; second ditto, W. Cox.

TULIP SHOW,

In the Odd Fellows' Hall, Todmorden, Thursday, May 31.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Farrand's Liberty, S. Fielden, Esq.
2 Rising Sun, J. Suthers, sen.
3 Sultana, R. W. Foster.
4 Duc de Savoy, S. Whitham.
5 Earl St. Vincent, J. Fielden, Esq.
6 Surpass Catafalque, J. Suthers, jun.
7 Trafalgar, S. Fielden, Esq.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Old Lacantique, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Incomparable Bizarre, S. Whitham
3 Albion, J. Suthers, sen.
4 Surpass Catafalque, J. Fielden, Esq.
5 Sans Joe, J. Suthers, sen.
6 Vampire, W. Helliwell, Esq.
7 General Chassee, J. Suthers, sen.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Grotius, ditto.
4 Washington, J. Suthers, jun.
5 Violet Font Noir, ditto.
6 Roi de Siam, ditto.
7 La Belle Narene, R. W. Foster.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Bienfait, ditto.
3 Violet Font Noir, S. Whitham.
4 Baguet, J. Suthers, jun.
5 Robottom's Incomp. J. Suthers, jun.
6 Washington, J. Fielden, Esq.
7 Sable Rex, R. W. Foster.

Feathered Roses.
1 Comte de Vergennes, J. Suthers, jun.
2 Lady Middleton, ditto.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Fielden, Esq.
4 Triomphe Royale, J. Suthers, sen.
5 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Fielden, Esq.
6 Walworth, J. Suthers, sen.
7 Andromeda, R. W. Foster.

Flamed Roses.
1 Unique, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Triomphe Royale, S. Whitham.
3 Comte de Vergennes, J. Suthers, jun.
4 Aglaia, J. Suthers, sen.
5 Queen Boadicea, R. W. Foster.
6 Lady Crewe, R. Brook.
7 Walworth, J. Suthers, sen.

Breeders.
Premier—Verpoort's Breeder, W. Helliwell, Esq.
1 Beauty of Dovedale, T. Lord.
2 Maid of Orleans, J. Suthers, sen.
3 Rose Breeder, J. Fielden, Esq.

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, R. Brook.
2 White Flag, J. Fielden, Esq.
3 Ely's Sovereign, J. Suthers, sen.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

FIRST-RATE ROSES FOR GARDEN CULTIVATION.

BY MR. T. ALLESTREE, DRAYCOTT, DERBYSHIRE.

AMONGST the great variety of roses now cultivated, many are very beautiful, and many are comparatively worthless. Having had between three and four hundred sorts flowered in my garden, this summer, I shall endeavour to point out the most beautiful in the several classes, as a guide to those commencing their cultivation, and those who wish to add to their collections, beginning with the

PROVENCE.—*Cristata*, or *Crested Provence*, curled, with crumpled petals, should be in every collection; and *Reine de Provence* is also desirable.

MOSS.—*White Bath*, still the best white; *De Meaux*, a beautiful little rose; *Prolific*, much like the common moss, but blooms most abundantly; *Lancel*, blush; and *Eclatante* are all first-rate.

Amongst the new varieties, *Comtesse de Noe* is a superb kind, but unfortunately a shy grower; *Etna* is first-rate; and *Laneii* very handsome when half expanded, with good habit and foliage very sweet.

FRENCH.—In this class are to be found some of the largest and most perfectly shaped roses in existence. *D'Aguesseau*, *Kean*, *Letitia*, *Telemaque*, *Schismaker*, bluish purple and curious, are a few of the best. *Œillet Parfait*, a rose of this class, is the best striped rose we possess. *Alba Felicite*, *Madame Audot*, and *Madame Legras* (white), are most beautiful varieties.

DAMASK.—*Lady Fitzgerald*, crimson; *Madame Stolz*, lemon; *Madame Zoutman*, creamy white.

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HYBRID PROVENCE.—*Comtesse Plater*, cream; *Emmerance*, pale lemon; *Eugenie Dessauzais*, pink, are three of the best.

HYBRIDS OF THE CHINESE AND BOURBON, to form pillar roses, or standards, with large heads.—*Chenedole*, *Leopold de Bouffremont*, *Triomphe de Laqueue*, *Coupe d'Hebe*, and *Paul Perras* will not disappoint.

CLIMBERS.—*Felicite Perpetual* and *Laure Davoust* are the best.

Celestial is a pretty flesh-coloured sweetbrier; and *Persian Yellow* is the best yellow rose we have in this neighhourhood. It does not flower so freely as could be desired, as a standard; but in Messrs. Lane's nursery, at Berkhampstead, the standards were covered with flowers, and they informed me that they were so every year.

The roses in the classes that follow are perpetuals, viz. flower more or less from June to November, and consequently are on that account more valuable; but few are equal to most of the above in size and regularity of petal. We may reasonably expect, in time, to have roses flowering in the autumn, rivalling the summer roses for beauty; and none is looked forward to with greater interest than the *Perpetual Moss*. What can be more desirable than moss roses giving us their beautiful flowers four months in the year? There are four or five varieties, which have been lately originated from seed, now described in the catalogues; the best, and perhaps the only one at present desirable to possess, is *Mauget*, light crimson, very double, and good shape.

THE DAMASK PERPETUALS have given way to the Hybrid Perpetuals. *Bernard*, *Flon*, and *Mogador* are worthy of a place in a choice collection.

HYBRID PERPETUALS.—A most valuable class. What a crowd of names in the catalogues; and what additions are made every year. Many of the roses in this class, sent from France, are not superior to the older varieties, and much like them in colour; others are great acquisitions. Without naming the

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old good sorts, any one not in possession of the following should procure them:—*Baronne Prevost, Comtesse Duchatel, Madame Verdier, Sidonie, Reine des Fleurs, Comte de Paris, Amanda Patenotte, Pompome de St. Aldegonde,* and *Ernestine de Barante.* They are beautiful dwarf varieties, with small elegant flowers. *Geant des Battailles,* a most brilliant addition to this class, should be in every collection. *Comte de Montalivet* is very large, not very double, and not scented to all tastes.

BOURBONS.—A beautiful family, flowering freely in the autumn. *Edouard Desfosses, George Cuvier. Le Grenadier, Madame Angelina, Paul Joseph, Souchet,* and *Souvenir de Malmaison* are a few of the best.

CHINA.—*Cramoisie Superieure, Archduke Charles, Madame Breon,* and *Mrs. Bosanquet* are very good for small beds.

TEA-SCENTED CHINA.—These are tender, and require protection in the winter. *Comte de Paris, Devoniensis, Eliza Sauvage, Safrano,* and *Vicomtesse de Cazes* (new) are superb.

NOISETTE.—*Le Pactole* and *Miss Glegg,* the first pale yellow, and the last pure white, are two beautiful varieties.

There are many beautiful roses not in the above list; but my object has been to enumerate a few in each class that may be relied on as superb, and will not easily be beaten.

THE CULTIVATION OF ROSES IN POTS.

BY E. BECK, ESQ. ISLEWORTH.

THE cultivation of roses in pots has reached a point of perfection which cannot fail to strike every one who remembers how few years have passed away since the first prizes were offered, in the face of the reiterated assertions of those who, it was presumed,

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ought to know best, that they were quite unsuitable for the purpose of exhibition in this mode. They now form a very important and beautifully interesting feature of the metropolitan exhibitions; and such of the readers of the *Midland Florist* as may not have enjoyed the treat of witnessing these great displays of horticultural skill, will like to be informed, that specimens have been shown this season, trained pyramidically, as bushes or as climbers, several feet in height and circumference, and covered with flowers, which, for beauty, could not be surpassed in the open ground. Many said that the flowers of pot roses would never bear comparison with the cut blooms, and this has proved true, as far as the *individual* flowers are concerned; because, in the former case, the blooms upon the plants are in all stages of expansion, whilst in the latter, they are all selected in the best condition for forming the bunches. Yet, who that has a just taste can for a moment allow cut blooms to take any place in comparison with the same flowers beautifully contrasting, as they do, upon the plant, with the tender and elegant foliage?

You ask me for a little southern information on the subject of their cultivation. I give it you with great pleasure; for between you, as conductor of the *Midland Florist*, and myself, as superintendent of the *Florist, and Garden Miscellany*, there can exist no jealousies, as we have but one object in view—the promotion of floriculture. Indeed I am urging on our friends in the north to start a "Northern Florist;" for let us be ever so desirous of doing justice to all parties, no arrangement will equal an editor upon the spot, within easy reach of all that is going on in a district.

But to the point, for the cultivation of roses in pots. Lay a good foundation. Purchase healthy vigorous plants, rather than large ones. Some are better on their own bottoms, others upon stocks; but the latter should be quite dwarf, six to twelve inches

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in height, at the utmost. Let us imagine you obtain them in October. Select them carefully. If on their own bottoms, examine the stem at its junction with the soil; see that it is healthy at that part, and as it goes upwards, that it is free from discoloured places on the bark. Those on stocks should have a good promise of forming a head of flowering wood. Bearing these precautions in mind, select the following varieties as a commencement; for we must caution our readers, that in order to compete triumphantly, or to keep up a fair display at home, a considerable number of plants and varieties are required:—

Perpetuals—
- Augustine Mouchelet
- Baronne Prevost
- Dr. Marx
- Duchess of Sutherland
- Lady Fordwich
- Louis Bonaparte
- Madame Laffay
- La Reine (apt to come deformed)
- William Jesse
- Duchess de Montmorency

Hybrid China—Paul Perras
- General Kleber
- General Allard

Hybrid Bourbon—
- Charles Duval
- Coupe d'Hebe
- Hortense Leroy

Alba—Felicite
- Sophie de Marsilly

Moss—Crested
- Alice Leroy
- Luxembourg
- White Bath

Bourbon—Armosa
- Souvenir de la Malmaison
- Madame Angelina
- Augustine Marget
- Julie de Fontenelle
- Comice de Seine et Marne

China—Madame Breon
- Aimee Plantier
- Eugene Beauharnais
- Mrs. Bosanquet
- Fabrier
- Archduc Charles

Tea-scented—Abricote
- Belle Allemande
- Bougere
- Caroline
- Comte de Paris
- Devoniensis
- Goubault
- Moise
- Niphetas
- Safrano
- Taglioni
- Triomphe de Luxembourg

Provide a quantity of mellow loam,—fatty, not sandy; mix up with this some well-rotted, but *not spent*, horse dung; and if you have some decomposed cow dung, in the state of black mould, so much the better. Two-thirds of a barrow of the former, nearly a third of the horse dung, and the remainder

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cowdung and clear sharp sand, will form a very suitable compost for potting the plants into. We are to suppose the plants are in four-inch pots, and well-rooted; shift them at once into an eight-inch size, with plenty of potsherds for drainage. Those plants which root delicately should be placed in six-inch pots. Shake all the soil from the roots, and, spreading them out by means of the fingers and a blunt stick, and striking the pot on the bench, introduce the compost thoroughly amongst them; after which they should be watered through a rose, and placed in a cold frame, and kept close and sheltered from the mid-day sun (if powerful) for about a week.

[To be continued.]

NOTES ON CARNATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS OF 1849.

BY THE EDITOR.

ALL-ENGLAND SHOW, DERBY.

A RAPID and decided improvement is taking place in these favourite flowers; and nowhere was this more conspicuous than at the great All-England show, held at Derby, on the 2nd of August. Most certainly it was the best exhibition ever seen in this part of the country; and the interest of the meeting was considerably enhanced by a fine collection of beautifully grown flowers, brought (not for competition) by Mr. Turner, of Chalvey.

A list of the prizes will be given in our record of exhibitions; but feeling that many of the flowers require a more particular notice, we shall, for the guidance of purchasers, as well as for the information of the general reader, endeavour to describe some of the most striking and beautiful.

Admiral Curzon (Easom) was exhibited in very fine style, and certainly may be called, if not the very best, one of the best scarlet bizarres in cultivation. Hepworth's True Briton, belonging to the

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same class, ought also to be generally cultivated; and Colcut's Brutus, which we have seen the coarsest flower in existence, was here exhibited in very fine style. A seedling was shown by Mr. Barrenger, of Bedford, in his winning stand, and was named "Derby;" it was a flower of good general properties, and an addition to this scarce class.

In crimson bizarres, Ely's Lord Milton was in several of the stands, and a very beautiful flower it is. Though it has now been raised some years, it is still at the top of the tree. Holliday's Thomas Hewlet, may, however, dispute the palm of excellence with it. We had not before seen this splendid flower, and though the sum at which it was sold out was great, still it was really better worth its price than many others at a much lower figure. Mr. Turner had two unnamed seedlings, which were very fine; but the other flowers in this class require no particular comment.

In scarlet flakes, Elliott's Brilliant was fine and attractive, the marking, as well as the white ground colour being good. We noticed it as a seedling, in our last year's volume. Mr. Barrenger also exhibited a seedling (No. 100) which took the first prize in the class, as well as being in the winning stand. It has plenty of petals, though in this case shown rather too flat. The white is good, and the flakes well defined, without those spots which often disfigure this class of flowers. Hardmet's Firebrand we have a good opinion of; it is a high-coloured and fine flower. Dr. Pattison, by the same grower, is rather inferior in the ground colour, the white being *pinky*.

In purple flakes, a fine seedling was brought by Mr. C. Turner; the white as good, and the marking and general character equal to Brabbin's 'Squire Meynell, which is saying a great deal. Vernon Smith was also a beautiful flower, but smaller; and Martin's President, though beautifully clean, was deficient in marking. Milwood's Premier, apt to come

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rather flushed, still can be grown a splendid flower; and Mango, though early, from its purity and form, should be in every collection.

In rose flakes, our old favourite, Ely's Lovely Ann, was first. It is excellent in form and substance of petal, and combines great purity with beautiful colour and marking. A spurious variety is often sold for this fine sort. Easom's Ocean Queen, extremely high coloured, approaching scarlet. This variety is sportive, and when badly grown, comes with the margin extremely serrated. Elliott's Martha, large and delicate, was pretty; and Barrenger's Apollo, also excellent. Flora's garland, exhibited by Mr. C. Turner, was the astonishment and admiration of every one, and we will venture to say, had never been shown in such style in this part of the world. It was by far the largest flower in the hall, well crowned with petals, and first-rate.

The picotees were particularly good. The seedlings were shown in sixes. Lady Harriet Moore (Burroughs) and Lorina, shown by Mr. C. Turner, were awarded first-class certificates. The former we fancied most, though the latter was very distinct; they were both light-edged purple, and large well-formed flowers; the side blooms of Lady H. Moore were rather heavier on the margin than the others. Besides these, the same cultivator had a box of remarkably fine blooms of the following:—Cox's Regina, first-rate petal, a light-edged purple, and the white good. May's Juliet, also light-edged purple, a splendid flower. Matthews's Witch, same class, a very desirable flower, with petals of superior form, slightly cupping, and dresses remarkably well. Marris's Prince of Wales, heavy, or rather medium-edged red, large and broad petals, very pure, and the lacing extremely distinct. We think this the best of its class we have yet seen.

We must not forget Youell's Gem, it well deserves its name, a clean and perfect light-edged red flower, which ought to be grown by every amateur. Amongst

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other picotees, we must notice with great praise a light-edged red seedling, raised by Mr. E. S. Dodwell, and named "Mary." It is first-rate in every respect, and will prove a match for every variety grown; it was awarded a certificate at the Slough meeting, took the first prize in its class, was also in the winning stand, and was awarded the extra prize given by J. Edwards, Esq. as the best picotee of any colour in the room. Marris's Prince Albert, light-edged purple, a large and showy variety, was also done well. Mrs. Barnard, light-edged rose, was, as usual very good. The same may be said of Headley's Venus, heavy-edged rose. May's Sebastian, a very heavy and dark red flower, was in good character, and is very distinct. Wildman's Isabella, in the same class, is a very lively and beatiful sort. Brinklow's Goliath, is a large and heavy edge, somewhat coarse, but will win. We must not forget two other flowers by the same raiser, exhibited by Mr. Barrenger: Leader, a full flower, very neat, and perfectly free from bars or stripes; and Wonder, a light-edged purple, very good, and sometimes caught a match for May's Juliet.

Two seedling rose-edged picotees were shown by Mr. Barrenger, each taking the second place in the class. The heavy-edge is very beautiful in colour, but the petals are slightly serrated; the light-edge (101) was beaten by Mrs. Barnard, though it made a good stand against this established favourite.

Green's Queen Victoria, Gatliff's Proconsul, and Willmer's Princess Royal, were extra fine, as heavy-edged roses; and Dickson's Sophia and Lady Alice Peel, were equally good in the light-edged class.

There were a great number of seedlings shown by Messrs. Merryweather, Schofield, and others, which were very promising, and though, from some defect, they could not be placed by the judges, still we have no doubt that some will make good stage flowers.

The exhibition of fruits was very superior. Many first-rate pines, and Muscat and Black Hamburgh

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Grapes were exhibited, with nectarines, peaches, and cherries which would not have disgraced any of the metropolitan exhibitions. We cannot enumerate these things, as it would extend this article beyond our limits; but we can say in truth that we were most highly gratified with the show, and trust it may be the beginning of a series of first-rate northern exhibitions, equally well supported and as well carried out.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

From the testimony of many correspondents, this is one of the most useful and interesting departments of our work, and is, we hope, a correct source of information of what is really good.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

Of geraniums there are now many brilliant varieties, and every season teems with novelties. We see E. Beck, Esq. intends letting out his seedlings of 1848, amongst which are the following desirable varieties:—

Cuyp.—Flower claret-coloured, with fine blotch on the upper petals, and lighter on the margin.

Emily.—A fine flower, in the style of Centurion, but better.

Governor.—Rich purple, stout flower, and an excellent variety for exhibition.

Rosalind.—Upper petals intense crimson, with fine blotch; the lower ones rose. A large white centre contrasts beautifully with these fine colours.

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Mr. Beck has also some excellent seedlings of '49.

Macready.—A white-centered flower, of good shape. The lower petals are deep rose colour, the upper ones covered with a very dark blotch, and the margin is deep scarlet, rendering it very attractive.

In cinerarias, which are such famous plants for embellishing the conservatory, we have, amongst new kinds that are first-rate,

Busby's Grand Master.—The ground colour of this bold and beautifully-formed flower is white, edged with crimson scarlet; the centre is purple, and the petals are broad and extremely well placed. It ought to be grown in every collection, however small,

Lamartine.—A very fine shaded blue flower, colour excellent.

Gordonii.—This is a splendid variety, colour deep crimson. The flowers individually are large, but it also trusses well, which renders it first-rate for embellishment or competition.

We have seen other varieties of this most popular flower, but must defer their description at present.

We have much pleasure in noticing and recommending the following scarlet geraniums; for either the greenhouse, for bedding out during summer, or for planting in vases, they are highly desirable, and few flowers make so splendid a bouquet.

Captain Darley.—A deep and brilliant salmon colour, a novel and beautiful sort.

Conway's Royalist.—Really a splendid variety. The trusses of flowers are immensely large, and are of the most brilliant scarlet imaginable; independent of which good qualities, it flowers most profusely.

Hendersonii is another, which is most vivid in colour, and an attractive variety.

Mitchell's Tam O'Shanter is, if possible, larger than a well-grown Shrubland, and is very excellent.

Those fine autumnal-flowering conservatory plants, the chrysanthemums, will now excite attention.

Poniatowskii.—Large and full flower, deep reddish salmon.

Pharamond.—Somewhat similar in colour, with very large and well-formed flowers.

La Reine d'Or.—One of the finest of the yellows.

Comte de Ramtzin—Deep crimson, of excellent form, and producing clusters of very fine flowers.

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BEGONIA AURANTICA is a splendid new greenhouse plant, though as yet rather expensive. It blooms most abundantly through the summer and autumn. As its name implies, the flowers are a deep brilliant orange; and we should say it is one of the showiest plants in cultivation.

HARDY PERENNIAL PLANTS.

LILIUM ENSANGLANTE.—This variety of the common white lily we have received from the Continent. The stripes, which are red, are not very distinct, but have rather a confused dirty look. It is more singular than beautiful, but may be admired by those who seek for novelty.

LINUM PERENNE PUNCTATUM. *(The Blotched Perennial Flax.)*—A pretty variety of an old favourite. It grows erect, about eighteen inches high, and the flowers, though fleeting, are produced in great profusion; they are blue, with large white spots.

STIPA GIGANTEA. *(The Giant Feather Grass.)*—A tall-growing variety of the beautiful grass with which the graceful winter bouquets are made. It is, however, destitute of the feathery appendages which the smaller variety has, and appears like bunches of pale green threads; it has, however, a very good effect.

HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS.

RHODODENDRON BLANDYANUM.—A very beautiful evergreen shrub, blooming too early for the northern parts of the kingdom. The flowers are so very brilliant that we would advise our readers in Devonshire, the Isle of Wight, and similar localities, to grow it, as in those favoured spots the flowers would not suffer, though they are so very early.

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MADAME TRUDEAUX ROSE.—A first rate hybrid perpetual. The flowers are excellent in form, and more double than either Geant des Battailles or Count de Montalivet, and of a very attractive and desirable colour in this class of flowers, being light crimson.

LONICERA HYBRIDA NOVA. *(The New Hybrid Honeysuckle.)*—An evergreen variety, with very distinct foliage, desirable for its large and sweet-scented pale flowers.

SAMBUCUS RETICULATA. *(The Net-leaved Elder.)*—This is a beautiful variety of a common tree, the foliage being netted all over with bright yellow. If it retains its character, it will prove a welcome addition to this class of plants, as the variegation is very bright and distinct.

VEGETABLES.

PILLINGER'S HYBRID STONE TURNIP.—This has lately been advertised as possessing the following good properties:—The top is very small, yet it makes a good-sized bulb in a short time, and in this respect stands unrivalled.

TILLEY'S EARLY MARROW CABBAGE.—Very early, extremely tender and good, surpassing in flavour and delicacy every other sort yet out.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

THE GARRENDON NUT.—We have had specimens of this new variety given us. The branch was about a foot in length, had seven small shoots, and at the

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end of each shoot was a cluster of nuts, the top one containing nine, the others from five to seven. They are of medium size, the husk coming high up. The kernel is well flavoured and the shell thin, so that it can be broken by the thumb and finger. We believe it was originated at Grace Dieu, the seat of C. M. Phillips, Esq.

QUERCUS CERRIS TORTUOSA.—A singular variety of the Turkey Oak, with very narrow twisted foliage, somewhat like the Quercus Robur Fenessii.

HUDSON'S ROSY QUEEN PICOTEE.—A very beautiful heavy-edged rosy pink picotee. It is quite full enough, but may be grown to a large size. The petals are well formed and smooth, and remarkably clear from bars or stripes.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

ON HYBRIDIZING PLANTS.

THOUGH hybridizing has already led to important results, they are probably nothing, compared to what may be expected to come of it. We anticipate, through its assistance, a change in the whole face of cultivated plants, and we shall be much surprised if even a few years do not bring us acquainted with races of trees, esculents, corn and forage plants, at least as important in their way as those which have already appeared among fruits and flowers; all that is wanted is to call attention to the subject, and to point out what the principles are which the experimenter has to bear in mind.

The effect is produced by applying the pollen of one flower to the stigma of another. The pollen

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indicates the male parent, the stigma the female. In performing the operation, it is necessary to use these precautions:—The female flower must be deprived of her stamens before they burst and disperse their pollen; and as soon as the stigma is glutinous enough to hold it fast, the pollen must be applied with care. Should this care not be taken, the stigma is very likely to be inoculated with pollen of her own or some other flower, and then the pollen which it is intended to use will not take; for it must be always borne in mind, that a stigma once inoculated cannot be inoculated again. From want of these precautions, people are continually fancying they have obtained hybrids when they have only gained natural seedlings. At least half the specimens of so-called hybrids sent to us for examination, are not hybridized at all. When the Dean of Manchester, who was the greatest of all authorities in this matter, wished to obtain a cross, he always endeavoured to force the female parent before others of its kind blow, so as to be ensured against accidental inoculation from pollen floating in the air. Want of attention to these minutæ has led to some singular errors on the part of a very ingenious correspondent, who fancied he had obtained seedlings between Crinun, Ismene, Buphane, Calostemma, &c. while he had only raised the usual seedlings.

It is hard to say within what limits the operation may be successfully practised. The general rule is, that plants which are very nearly related are able to inoculate each other. But there may be exceptions to this. At least we know that very near connexions have, or seem to have, a great aversion for each other. For example, a raspberry and a strawberry are first cousins, yet they appear to have no mind for an alliance. A gooseberry, currant, and black currant are still nearer to each other, and their repugnance seems invincible; at least nobody has yet found means to hybridize them with each other, though many have attempted it. On the other hand,

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heaths, different as they are from each other, intermingle freely. Cereus speciosissimus is readily inoculated by the Night-flowering Cereus; and even the Creeping Cereus has been crossed with the former; the rhododendron will fertilize the azalea; and, strangest of all, the Red Cedar has been found, on several occasions, to inoculate the American Arborvitæ, the issue from which is that curious whipcord-branched plant, called in the gardens Thuja filiformis. This singular shrub was so produced for the first time in Messrs. Loddigers' nursery, at Hackney, and has since been obtained in the same manner at Paris. These facts open a very wide field for inquiry, and are especially valuable as affording evidence that the limits of hybridizing are far from being narrow.

In the midst of many experiments conducted without exactness, from which no safe conclusion can be drawn, there are some which, in the hands of such men as the Dean of Manchester, seem to justify the important inference, that as a general rule, the properties of the male parent will be the most conspicuous in the hybrid. For example, Mr. Herbert crossed the long yellow-cupped common daffodil with the small red-edge-cupped poet's daffodil, and the seeds of the common daffodil furnished a bulb with most of the attributes of the poet's narcissus. The same gentleman also obtained out of a capsule of Rhododendron ponticum, inoculated by Azalea pontica, seedlings which had entirely the habit of the latter or male parent.

In like manner the arborescent crimson-flowered Rhododendron atlaclarense was raised from the seed of the dwarf pallid R. arboreum; and when the common scarlet azalea, with its crimson flowers and narrow leaves, was inoculated at Highclerc, with Azalea pontica, Mr. Gower found that its seeds produced plants much more like the male than the female parent. Exceptions, or apparent exceptions to this do, no doubt, exist, and hybrids could be

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found which are half way between their father and mother, or more like the mother than the father; but as far as means of judging at present exist, these would seem to be the exception, and not the rule; and therefore the greater influence of the male may be taken as a tolerably safe guide in all experiments in this interesting art.

Gardener's Chronicle.

THE BEST WAY TO RENOVATE AN OLD APRICOT TREE.

MANY readers of the *Midland Florist* may have unsightly objects in their gardens, with long barren shoots, and in consequence of bad pruning, there may be clusters of *snags* or *spurs*. Now, as it is highly desirable that every inch of wall should be covered, if an old-established tree can be made to do this quickly, the possessor will be much more likely to reap its fruits than if he planted a young tree, especially if he be advanced in years. Feeling that this is of much importance, we make no apology for giving Mr. I. Duncan's experience on the subject, from the *Gardener's Chronicle*:—

"In the garden I lately had the management of, there was an old apricot tree, which for years had been allowed to produce spurs, which projected upwards of seven inches from the wall, giving the tree an unsightly appearance, and in order to correct this, and bring it into a bearing state, as soon as it commenced breaking (that is putting forth its buds) in spring, every bud on the spurs was rubbed off as fast as they appeared, except one, which was left at the extremity of each spur; and by this mode of treatment, in a short time, the tree threw out shoots in all directions. I still continued disbudding the spurs, till I had secured a sufficient quantity of young bearing shoots to replace the spurs, and as wood was

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made it was laid in, and all shoots discarded that were not in their places. I then commenced cutting away the spurs close to the tree, but they were not all cut away at once; the largest were taken out first, and so on. Little more was done until the following February, when the tree was pruned and nailed, and out of an unsightly and comparatively barren object, I had a handsome and prolific tree, extending upwards of twenty feet right and left from the boll, which I judged to be between sixty and seventy years old. In the spring of the following year after this treatment, the tree was covered with blossoms, one hundred dozen of which set, and out of these about thirty dozen were allowed to ripen fruit."

ON THE PROTECTION OF TENDER PLANTS.

THE principles of protection are few and simple, and may be said to be within the reach of every one, at least as far as such can be carried without the aid of houses and artificial heat. A comparative degree of dryness is the first great essential, whether in the atmosphere or the soil. In a frame or pit this amount of dryness cannot be guaranteed without motion in the air; and this, of course, in the absence of fire heat, must be accomplished by a very free ventilation at every fitting opportunity, remembering that a small amount of frost is in general less prejudicial than an accumulation of damp, which will rapidly tend to a kind of mortification in the system of the plant. The same atmospheric conditions are to be obtained out of doors, as far as attention can secure them: thus half-hardy plants against trellises or detached, if covered with a mat and stuffed closely with hay inside, will be in danger of perishing of what we may for the present term suffocation. The same specimen will always run through a long winter better with the mat alone, more especially if the

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collar is well protected by some porous material, and above all, the root well top-dressed with sawdust or ashes, or perhaps the two blended. As to comparative dryness of the soil, that must be accomplished principally by the most perfect drainage, which is the great desideratum with plants of tender habits; indeed without it other appliances are seldom satisfactory. Conical mounds of new sawdust raised round the stem, with a considerable body over the soil as far as the root ranges, will be found of immense benefit as retaining the ground heat, which, we believe, ascends in a progressive way up the stem, to alleviate the effects of very severe weather. In the kitchen garden, after thorough drainage, elevated beds are of great importance during winter. We have had much experience of the good effects of raised beds, and we continue to raise them higher, if possible, each succeeding autumn. On such, the lettuces, cauliflowers, and other tender things will be found to keep much better, both as regards severe weather and the snails, than on lower levels. When the young lettuces and similar winter things are frozen tolerably hard, they should be covered with clean straw, and every means be taken to prevent them from thawing suddenly.

Gardener's Chronicle.

RAISING NEW FRUITS

With the raising of new fruits, as with all other experiments, if a beginning is once made, the interest taken in the subject excites a desire for investigation which increases as we approach the period of ascertaining the results. If they are satisfactory, and we have gained an improved variety, we are encouraged to proceed in such an interesting and useful employment; but if the results are fruits of inferior quality, the disappointment has given a gain of knowledge whereby we are the better enabled

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to enter upon another series of experiments, with greater probability of success. There is something so fascinating in such experiments, that if once we have commenced them, we are sure to be led by the pleasure, interest, and mystery with which they are accompanied until the results are produced. For gooseberries, raspberries, and currants, it does not require to provide ones self with a great stock of patience; as seeds of them sown in autumn will produce fruit the second season. If seedling fruits show any features indicative of an improved breed, it would be well to give them a further trial, till the third season, when their natural qualities will be sufficiently matured to be retained or rejected, according to their merits or demerits. Seeds of the abovenamed fruits produce varieties of the parent plant most frequently inferior to the original stock, but by selecting one sort valuable for its habits of growth, productiveness, or size, to be impregnated with another sort, valuable for its flavour, the offspring would be likely to inherit the good qualities of the parents in a superior degree. It is possible, by the cross-impregnation of two sorts—one of them deficient of some good quality that the other possesses—to obtain an improved variety, inheriting some share of the good qualities of the parents. What is found to be true in cross-breeding for an improved race of animals, is equally true when applied to the improvement of fruits and vegetables.

Gardener's Chronicle.

A GOOD AND DESIRABLE VEGETABLE.

Our friend, Mr. Rilott, of Donnington, near Spalding, requested us to extract the following communication, which he made to the editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, as calculated to be of service to many of our readers:—

"The plant called Mercury in Lincolnshire; the

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Garden Orach of Culpepper, the old herbalist; the Good King Henry of Dr. Hill. Few gardens in this part of the country are without it, for it is a most desirable vegetable. Indeed I may say that it is a luxury, now potatoes are a failure. It comes in at a time when it is most wanted, namely, the beginning of May. It is a hardy perennial, and never fails to produce a crop. It should be treated like asparagus. If sown in rich soil, fifteen inches apart, in rows, eighteen inches asunder, it will put up stalks nearly as thick as ones little finger. When from four to six inches high, and upwards, it may be cut off close to the old root, have the bottom leaves stripped off, and the stalks peeled, which is readily done by taking hold of the peel with the knife and thumb, at the bottom, and stripping it upwards. If any seed shows itself on the top, remove it with the knife, leaving the top leaves with the stalk, which is the part used. Tie it up in convenient bunches, and boil it till it becomes tender; then lay it on a vegetable dish, and serve it up, with or without melted butter, pepper, salt, vinegar, &c. as may suit different tastes. It may be eaten with any kind of meat, roast or boiled, and particularly with roasted fresh meat and boiled bacon. It forms a good substitute for spinach, cabbage, &c.

"No garden should be without it. About fifty roots for a small, and a hundred for a moderate-sized family, will keep up a supply until it is time to discontinue cutting it; then let it grow like asparagus, cut off the dead haulm in winter, and mulch over the roots with rotten dung; let it remain in that condition all the winter, and turn it in with a fork at spring, as soon as the plants begin to grow, *not earlier;* for if done too early, and severe frost sets in, it starves the roots. It is fond of strong liquid manure, applied previous to forking over the ground.

"It is propagated by seed, or dividing the roots. There are two or three sorts, red, green, &c.; the green is, I believe, much the best, and grows finest."

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GROWING POTATOES FROM SLIPS OR SHOOTS.—We are not aware that there is any great novelty in this, but hundreds of our readers may not have tried it, and hundreds more may never have heard of the plan; at all events, we give the following details of an experiment of our own, on a small scale:—In the spring of 1847, some Early Shaw potatoes, which had been left in the ground all the winter, had thrown up numerous strong shoots, about six inches in length. We happened to have a border, consisting of a few square yards of light sandy soil, which had been well manured and thrown up in ridges in the autumn. The thought struck us that we would plant out these shoots. Accordingly, the self-sown potatoes, as they are called, were dug up, and the shoots carefully removed, they being furnished with abundance of roots: perhaps each potato might afford five or six shoots. After levelling the soil, we then, by the aid of a line, made a trench, four to six inches deep, across the border, in which these shoots were placed, at a distance of twelve inches from each other, the soil being carefully brought round them by the hand; another trench was then made, eighteen inches distant from the former one, and planted in a similar manner No further care was directed towards them, more than the usual flat-hoeing and subsequent earthing up. When the haulm began to turn yellow, we lifted the roots, and were agreeably surprised to find a most abundant crop. The tubers were fine and clear, and nearly all of a size. We are quite sure this hint may be acted on with advantage.

MARURE FOR GARDENS.—*Sulphate of Ammonia.*—Half an ounce to a gallon of water is a powerful stimulant, but must only be applied as you would water; the soil should be soaked. Two waterings will be found sufficient.—*Soot*, at the rate of six quarts to a hogshead of water, and stirred well, till it dissolves, is an excellent liquid manure, and may be applied much oftener, and on a larger scale.—

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Guano.—Half an ounce to a gallon of water is strong enough to be used with advantage, without danger of injuring anything; and two or three applications, a month apart, will not be too much.—These liquid manures are most efficacious when applied to plants that have filled their pots with roots, and want shifting, for it gives new life, and protracts the starving point some weeks; but weak as they may be supposed to be, if applied without intermission, long together, they will do mischief.—*Gardener's Journal.*

At St. Clair, near Ryde, Isle of Wight, the seat of Colonel Vernon Harcourt, the Double-blossomed Hardy Heath is planted out on the lawn, and makes a very beautiful appearance; and at the same place, the Hydrangea Japonica has flowered with fifty heads of bloom, and is supposed to be sufficiently hardy to withstand ordinary winters. Walks are formed there of *lime and sifted coal-ashes*, which preserves a hard and dry footing in the most unfavourable weather, and obviates the objection to gravel, which often fills the surrounding turf with grit. We think our readers had better try this. Coal-ashes are generally plentiful, and lime is cheap; it will be well worth trying. It would also make good foundations for auricula or carnation pots to stand on, during the blooming season. As the proportions are not given, they must be ascertained by experiment; or perhaps some of our readers in the island will kindly obtain them for us, from Mr. Meehan.—*Gardener's Journal.*

Fine Plants of Robinia Inermis.—When at Bruges, in Belgium, we particularly noticed, opposite the cathedral, a row of beautiful trees. They were the Robinia inermis, grafted fifteen feet from the ground; the trunks, about six inches in diameter, perfectly symmetrical; the heads pendulous, and certainly very ornamental. We wish we could see this beautiful tree more extensively planted on lawns and similar places.

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APPLICATION OF LIQUID MANURE TO GROWING CROPS.—This is much better understood on the Continent than in England. We noticed in the neighbourhood of Bruges, a field of potatoes, that appeared to have been set with great regularity, inasmuch as they had been earthed up with the plough, which again intersected the furrows, so that each potato plant appeared to stand on a cone or mound. Between these rows, there were several men, with casks, placed on a frame, like a wheelbarrow, and filled with liquid manure. With a large scope, they gave each plant a dose of about half a gallon. Here then was the food of the plants applied so that they could immediately benefit by it. Why cannot the same thing be done in England? Instead of dragging into gardens manure often filled with the seeds of weeds, which take a long time to destroy, even if they ever are eradicated, the artizan or mechanic, with a liquid manure barrow, might, by bringing from his house, the suds, urine, and slops all kinds, make his small plot doubly productive.

REVIEWS.

HARRISON'S FLORICULTURAL CABINET

CONTAINS, amongst a great variety of useful papers, one on the cultivation of the ranunculus, with a coloured plate of two seedlings, *Tyso's Flaminius* and *Kilgour's Princess Royal*; also a list of new plants, amongst which are some French seedling verbenas, and from the description, they must be very beautiful. There are

Chauviere's Madame Brungot.—White, with a deep crimson eye, of first-rate quality.

Defosse's Talleyrand.—Lilac, shaded and streaked with blue purple, good form, and large truss.

Chauviere's Diana.—Lilac, with crimson purple centre, trusses well.

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Chauviere's Eleanor de Guyanne.—Blush, shaded and bordered with rosy lilac.

On Planting Ornamental Shrubs in Masses, Raising Carnations from Seed, &c. This is a very good and interesting number.

THE FLORIST. Edited by E. Beck, Esq.

THE illustration is three beautiful epacrises, raised by Mr. Story, with a list of the best and most distinct varieties; and as some of our readers may like to know the best half-dozen, we select those we fancy will suit them. They must bear in mind that these plants are hard-wooded evergreens, with tubular heathlike blossoms; and we are here told, "By means of epacrises, primulas (to which P. altiaca, when "let out," will form a good addition), cinerarias, camellias, hyacinths and other forced bulbs, azaleas, rhododendrons, violets, cyclamens, and some of the early heaths, &c. a small house may be kept in a blaze of flower all the early spring, and at very little expense and trouble." Now for the best six.

Candidissima.—Very beautiful white, short and spacious tube, with reflexing tip.

Ardentissima.—The flowers are deep rosy purple, very pretty and distinct, tube medium length.

Rubella.—Extra, brilliant rosy red.

Limata.—Rose, shading off to pure white, the tube moderate, a very free bloomer, good.

The Bride.—A very beautiful white.

Coccinea.—Scarlet.

There is an interesting paper, entitled "My Rose Journal." It is here stated, the Rosa manetti makes an excellent stock, which we do not doubt. A friend of ours uses Boursault elegans for this purpose, as he finds his garden unsuitable for roses budded on the common brier, and we have no doubt many of our readers are in the same predicament.

We must not forget the wood-cuts. One is a rustic chair; the other, which heads an article on water plants, is a boy with a stick, endeavouring to reach some lilies in a pool.

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We are also glad to see that publicity is given to the school gardens, noticed in the *Midland Florist* some time ago, and which we hope to see generally adopted.

Part III.

QUERIES.

How am I to proceed with my nectarine tree, which is in an unhealthy state, the leaves curling and becoming yellow? The wood is thick and short, it is on a south wall, has been planted eleven years, and has bore no fruit; soil about two feet, with a strong gravelly subsoil, situation low. W. C. N.

Some three or four years since, I saw a fuchsia, named Superba, raised by a gentleman's gardener, in Derbyshire, a small flower, of the globose form, with bright blue petals. I have inquired for it of several nurserymen, but none of them know anything of it. I shall be glad if you, or a correspondent, will tell whether it be an imaginary or real plant, and, if the latter, where it may be obtained. A SUBSCRIBER.

WIRE GUARDS FOR PEAS, ETC.—My garden is situated within a hundred yards or so of a house that is covered with ivy, and is, of course, a great resort for the sparrow tribe, both winter and summer; and as I am troubled with them by scores at a time, during the whole of daylight, anything in the shape of a scarecrow is apparently useless. The best preventive of their depredations whilst the crops are young, or just appearing, that I can think of, is oblong frames, made of half-inch red deal, four inches deep, nine inches wide, and of a length suitable for rows of peas, and covered securely with galvanized or japanned sparrowproof-meshed iron wire, dome-shaped, or square, according to fancy, which would be a security against these pests, and would also prove a protection to the early-sown crops, in the winter season. I believe, if wooden boxes were constructed as for glass lights, and covered with this kind of material, they would be of great value for the winter-sown or planted lettuce, radishes, &c., in fact, anything which requires such protection. Choice cauliflowers might also be preserved from the nibbling of hares and rabbits, where these depredators are plentiful. The expense, in my view, is trifling, compared with the value of the crops guarded from these "destructives." I shall feel obliged by your opinion, before I commence the trial next season. J. M.

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I shall feel extremely obliged if you will inform me of the best way to make a strawberry bed; and likewise give a list of the best show varieties of that fruit. I. R.

Will you be so kind as to give, in your next number, the names of a few of the best standard apples and pears, for cottage gardens, in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, size one rood, aspect south-east? A good-sized market apple and pear is required, and the various sorts to succeed each other; and if you would name the time of keeping of each variety, it would be of advantage to us. The above would be of great use, as there are a few land societies in Sheffield, formed for the benefit of the working man.

A Well-wisher to the Working Men's Benefit Land Societies.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Wireworms on Newly-broken-up Pasture.—A Young Gardener.—Perhaps the better plan would have been to have pared the surface, burnt the turf, and spread the ashes. By this many of the larvæ and their eggs would have been destroyed. We would advise cropping for a few years with those crops which they do not so much affect.

To propagate Hollyhocks.—H. S.—Cut down the stems now, and divide them into lengths of about three inches, each having an eye; split these lengthways, reserving the part in which the bud is situated; remove the pith, and place them just beneath the soil, leaving the bud exposed; cover with hand-glasses, and shade from excessive sun.

A Young Florist, who has his pink pipings destroyed, is plagued with the wireworm. The soil for such things as pinks ought all to go through the hand. He may also put cuttings of potatoes or carrots in the bed, as traps, which should be examined every few days, and if the worms are about, they will generally be found to have eaten their way into these roots. If he will also take a candle and lantern, and examine his beds of pansy cuttings, when it is dark, he will find the authors of the mischief, in the shape of large earth worms, which lie out during the night, and which, in their coming out and retreat, will drag young plants, leaves, &c. into heaps, near their holes. The remedy is *to catch them.*

S. T.—We would not advise him to dress his garden of strong loam with manure and lime *together.* Lime is decidedly in opposition to the gasses and salts which render manure

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valuable, and which it dispels when in contact. *We should say*, lime the land in the autumn, ridging it up, and in the spring add the manure.

LARGE TREES FOR SHADES.—HENRY SMITH may get any of the following trees, which will answer his purpose. They grow quickly, are ornamental, and may be moved ten or even fifteen feet high, if properly got up, planted, and staked, to prevent the wind acting on their tops. We would provide the first size at sixpence each, and the latter at one shilling.

The Lime Tree *(Tillia Europea)*
The Broad-leaved Poplar *(Populus Americana)*
The Narrow-leaved Poplar *(Populus angulata)*
The Acacia *(Robinia pseud acacia)*
The White Beam Tree *(Pyrus aria)*
The Weeping Birch *(Betula pendula)*

LIST OF HANDSOME HARDY PERENNIALS.—R. S., *Holbeach*.—

Anemone Japonica	12 to 18 in.	Red
Aquilega Fragrans	2 feet	Cream
,, *Glandulosa major*	12 to 18 in.	Blue and white
Campanula Nitida Major	3 feet	Blue
,, *Grandis Alba*	3 to 4 feet	White
,, *Nobelis*	1 foot	Purplish red
Delphinium Barlowii	3 feet	Fine shaded blue
,, *Masterpiece*	4 feet	Splendid blue
Dianthus Formosa	6 to 9 in.	Scarlet and white
,, *Alta Clarence*	6 to 9 in.	Scarlet
Dodecatheon Elegans	6 to 9 in.	Pink, variegated
Dracocephalum Speciosissimum	2 to 3 feet	Pink
Gallardia Splendens	2 feet	Yellow & crimson
Lobelia Wilsonii	2 to 3 feet	Violet
Mimulus Harlequin	18 inches.	Yellow and scarlet
" *Colii*	18 inches.	Crimson
Pentstemon Gent. Alba	2 feet	Cream-coloured
Phlox Van Houtte	2 feet	Striped
,, *Ninon de l'Enclos*	2 feet	Cream, pink eye
Potentilla Insignis	6 inches.	Bright yellow
,, *Fintlemanii*	12 inches.	Bright crimson
Sisyrinchium Grandiflorum	6 inches.	Plum-coloured
Statice Superbum	18 inches.	Pink
Veronica Grandiflora	2 to 3 feet	Slaty blue

The above twenty-four will, we are sure, meet the wishes of R. S.

WILL PINKS GET MORE DOUBLE AS THEY INCREASE IN AGE?—W. MASON.—We fear not. We have known pinks on two or three year roots to get thinner than when first raised, but we have no idea that they will get more double as they grow older. We shall be glad to hear our brother pink growers' opinion on this matter, for we are not infallible.

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR SEPTEMBER.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS, & MIXED FLOWER GARDEN.

Pansy beds may now be formed, selecting good plants from those which have been struck from cuttings, and purchasing those sorts required to make up the collection. If good blooms are wanted next spring, the plants ought to be well established before winter. Continue to propagate all promising seedlings. The side slips will be best, and are generally used, except where extensive propagation is required.

Repot *seedling auriculas*. By giving them more room they establish themselves, and flower better in the spring. We have now a quantity throwing up flower stems, and as soon as a pip is sufficiently opened to determine its quality, if inferior, we pull it up, and if good, we pull off the remaining buds of the truss, that the young plant may not be weakened. Vigilance must be directed to the various enemies, such as green fly, snails, &c.

Look over the pots of *carnation layers*; for it often happens, even if as careful as possible, that wireworms will attack them. As soon as the least alteration appears in the foliage, raise the layer, and the marauder will be found either having eaten its way into it, or attacking another. Little else need be done during the month, except watering and keeping clean. Remove the decayed petals from the calyxes, and either cut down or split the pods which are perfecting their seed.

Dahlias.—These splendid autumnal flowers now claim their due share of attention, and we would advise those who are but just commencing their cultivation to be particularly careful in keeping them well tied out. We have a notion that a trellis, somewhat in the style of a wire fence, about four feet or more high, would answer this purpose admirably. If it were composed of horizontal wires, one above the other, nine inches asunder, with the requisite supports at given distances, we see no reason why a *dahlia* should not be trained to it with advantage. It would allow the foliage a full exposure to the action of the sun, and every flower might thus enjoy its share. The plants would also look neater than when tied to stakes, and if trained thus, on each side of a path, we fancy the effect would be beautiful.

In the parterre, or mixed flower garden, gather all seed as soon as ripe, and store it away in a dry place. Cut off dead stems, &c. and transplant all *biennials*, such as *scabiouses*, the various *dianthuses*, or *mule pinks*, intended for next season's blooming. Part *rockets*, and plant out rooted layers of the

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clove and other *carnations*. Put in choice *Chinese rose cuttings*, and if the bark of the dog rose still continue to rise, they may yet be budded with advantage. Our readers will have an opportunity, in this month's number, of making a selection from some of the best *roses* grown, either for pot culture or otherwise.

Evergreens may be transplanted during the latter part of the month; and in fact, every preparation should be made for moving *trees*, *deciduous shrubs*, and *evergreens*, by the middle of October.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

From the reports already prevalent respecting the potato disease, we would advise a great breadth of *cabbage*, *cauliflowers*, &c. to be planted out; they will be wanted. And to those whose *potatoes* do not yet give evidence of attack, we would recommend the immediate taking up of their crops.

Celery.—Earth up as required. A new plan has been lately tried with success. Earthenware tubes, or half tubes, something like draining tiles, are placed upright round the sticks of celery, and filled up with sand; the common earth is then drawn to the outside of the tubes, and by these means the depredations of snails, slugs, &c. which make such havoc amongst celery, especially on strong land, are avoided.

Store *onions*, and dry them well in the sun before putting away. Thin autumn-sown *onions*, keeping the drills well cleaned and stirred with the small crane-necked hoe.

Towards the latter end of the month, take up *carrots*, which should be stored away, merely rubbing off the dirt with the hand. It is a bad plan either to shorten the roots, or to cut them unnecessarily. The same observation applies to *parsnips*. Propagate the different varieties of *thyme*, *sage*, &c. by slips and cuttings, or division of the roots. Get *gherkins*, *radish pods*, *nasturtiums*, and *tomatoes*, for pickling.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Strawberry beds should be made. Keen's Seedling is still one of the best; Cuthill's Black Prince, though not large, is remarkable for its earliness, great produce, and fine flavour; the British Queen is a fine variety; and Downton, as a late sort, invaluable.

Gooseberries and *currants* may be planted out, the latter end of the month. The Haughton Castle has maintained its superiority as a fine red currant, during the past season. The London, Companion, Wonderful, and Slaughterman, are very heavy red gooseberries, and bear well. These have been very successful at the various exhibitions through the country. As a first-rate yellow, we can recommend Ellis's Lord Rancliffe, which, as it gets more plentiful, ought to be in every garden.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

CARRINGTON TULIP SHOW,

May 21.

First Pan.—Bienfait, Atlas, Mr. Hardy.
Second Pan —Bienfait, Mr. Wych.
Third Pan —Bienfait, Lustre, Mr. Richardson.
Fourth Pan.—Count de Vergennes, Unique, Mr. Nunnerley.
Fifth Pan.—Count de Vergennes, Grand Cairo, Mr. Slater.
Sixth Pan.—Magnum Bonum, Polyphemus, Mr. E. Dean.
Maiden Pan.—Surpasse Lacantique, Mr. J. Dean.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Mr. E. Dean.
2 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Hardy.
3 Surpasse Catafalque, Mr. Dean.
4 Trafalgar, Mr. P. Dean.
5 Firebrand, Mr. E. Dean.
6 Emperor Charles, Mr. Hardy.
7 Old Dutch Catafalque, Mr. Nunnerley.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Sir Joe, Mr. Hardy.
2 Lustre, Mr. P. Dean.
3 Surpasse Lacantique, Mr. Richardson.
4 Albion, Mr. Nunnerley.
5 Charles X., Mr. Hardy.
6 Unknown, Mr. Ackerley.

Feathered Byblæmens.

1 Bienfait, Mr. Hardy.
2 Baguet, Mr. E. Dean.
3 Ambassador, Mr. Hardy.
4 Tirtius, Mr. Nunnerley.
5 Lewold, Mr. Hardy.
6 Lord Gough, Mr. Nunnerley.
7 Hampton's Seedling, ditto.

Flamed Byblæmens.

1 Bienfait, Mr. Nunnerley.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Adelaide, Mr. E. Dean.
4 La Belle Narene, ditto.
5 Patroclus, Mr. Nunnerley.
6 Louis XVI., Mr. Hardy.
7 Tom, Mr. E. Dean.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, Mr. Nunnerley.
2 Heroine, Mr. Hardy.
3 Count de Vergennes, Mr. Nunnerley.
4 Madam Vestris, Mr. Hardy.
5 Dolittle, Mr. Richardson.
6 Walworth, Mr. Nunnerley.
7 Aglaia, Mr. Hardy.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, Mr. P. Dean.
2 Camillus, Mr. Hardy.
3 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Nunnerley.
4 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto.
5 La Vandyckea, Mr. Hardy.
6 Lady Crewe, Mr. Slater.
7 Fleur des Dames, Mr. Nunnerley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Polyphemus, Mr. Hardy.
2 Earl Radnor, Mr. Slater.

Byblæmen Breeders.

1 Sir H. Pottinger, Mr. P. Dean.
2 Britannia, Mr. Hardy.

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastsia, Mr. Hardy.
2 Newcastle, Mr. Richardson.

Selfs.

Yellow—1 Min d'Or, Mr. Richardson.
White—1 Perfection, Mr. Nunnerley.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mrs. Riley's, the Shears Inn, Lee Bridge, Halifax, May 28.

Premier Prize.—Caribbe, G. Baildon.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Surpasse Catafalque, G. Baildon.
2 Firebrand, ditto.
3 Waterloo, ditto.
4 Rising Sun, ditto
5 Charles X., ditto.
6 Dutch Catafalque, ditto.
7 Captain White, J. Chapman.
8 Crown Prince, G. Baildon.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Surpasse Catafalque, G. Baildon.
2 Leonatus Posthumous, ditto.
3 Cato, G. Baildon.
4 Strong's Bolivar, ditto.
5 Kouli Khan, J. Chapman.
6 Abercromby, G. Baildon.
7 Rising Sun, ditto.
8 Wolstenholme's Bizarre, J. Chapman.

Feathered Byblæmens

1 Bienfait Incomparable, A. Hartley.
2 Baguet Rigaut, G. Baildon.
3 Poupre Superbe, ditto.
4 Washington, ditto.
5 Margrave de Baden, ditto.

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6 Duc de Bordeaux, G. Baildon.
7 Ambassador von Holland, ditto.
8 Maitre Partout, ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, I. Chapman.
2 Violet Wallers, G. Baildon.
3 Magnificent, ditto.
4 Queen of May, ditto.
5 Voerhelm's Incomparable, ditto.
6 Baguet Rigaut, D. Asquith.
7 Czarinne, A. Hartley.
8 Washington, D. Asquith.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, G. Baildon.
2 Heroine, ditto.
3 Lady Crewe, ditto.
4 Dolittle, D. Asquith.
5 Duchess of Newcastle, G. Baildon.
6 Unknown, ditto.
7 Heroine, D. Asquith.
8 Dolittle, ditto.

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, G. Baildon.
2 Incomparable Royale, ditto.
3 Comte de Vergennes, I. Chapman.
4 Rose Unique, A. Hartley.
5 Yorkshire Rose, G. Baildon.
6 Lord Hill, ditto.
7 Lawrence's Athalia, ditto.
8 Reid's No. 39, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, I. Chapman.
2 Surpasse Catafalque, D. Asquith.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Verport's Incomparable, G. Baildon.
2 Buckley's Beauty, ditto.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Crewe, G. Baildon.
2 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, G. Baildon.
2 Flag, I. Chapman.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. John Crapper, Shoulder of Mutton Inn, Halifax, May 30.

Premier Prizes.—1. Feathered bizarre, Surpasse Catafalque, G. Baildon. 2. Feathered rose, Lady Middleton, ditto.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Waterloo, J. Hinscliff.
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Duc de Savoy, I. Fletcher.
4 Captain White, I. Chapman.
5 Charles X, G. Baildon.
6 Surpasse Catafalque, D. Asquith.
7 Firebrand, A. Hartley.
8 Kearsley's Pri. of Wales, I. Fletcher

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Abercrombie, I. Fletcher.
2 George IV, J. Hinscliff.
3 Cato, G. Baildon.
4 Carlo Dolce, I. Fletcher.
5 Donzelli, J. Hinscliff.
6 Shakspere, D. Asquith
7 Leonatus Posthumous, G. Baildon.
8 Charbonnier, I. Rushworth.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, A. Hartley.
2 Clark's Thalia, I. Hinscliff.
3 Baguet Rigaut, G. Baildon.
4 Baguet Light, I. Fletcher.
5 Maitre Partout, ditto.
6 Czarinne, ditto.
7 Incomparable, A. Hartley.
8 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Czarinne, G. Baildon.
2 Voerhelm's Incomparable, I. Fletcher.
3 Grand Cid, ditto.
4 Diana Bruin, ditto.
5 Bienfait, I Chapman.
6 Queen Charlotte, I. Fletcher.
7 Roi de Siam, J Hinscliff.
8 Rubens, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte de Vergennes, J. Hinscliff.
2 Duchess of Newcastle, G. Baildon.
3 Lady Crewe, ditto.
4 Lady Middleton, ditto.
5 Dolittle, I. Chapman.
6 Heroine, I. Rushworth.
7 Seedling, J Hinscliff.
8 Walworth, I. Rushworth.

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, G. Baildon.
2 Triomphé Royale, ditto.
3 Unique, J. Hinscliff.
4 Seedling, ditto.
5 Tinker's Rose, I. Fletcher.
6 Comte de Vergennes, ditto.
7 Unknown, D. Asquith.
8 Cerise Belle Forme, I. Fletcher.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.
2 Polyphemus ⋈ Leopold, ditto.
3 Seedling, ditto.
4 Ditto ditto.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Gibbons's, J. Hinscliff.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Verpoort's Incomparable, G. Baildon
4 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.

Rose Breeders.

1 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Duchess of Newcastle, G. Baildon.
4 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.

Selfs.

1 Seedling (white), J. Hinscliff.
2 Cotherstone, I. Rushworth.
3 Min d'Or, G. Baildon
4 Whittaker's Flag, I. Fletcher.

Judges.—I. Jackson, Deighton; G. Sholes, Oldham; I Walmsley, Mixenden.

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TULIP SHOW,

At the White Hart Inn, Todmorden, Saturday, June 2.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Farrand's Liberty, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Arthington's Rainbow, R. W. Foster
3 Crown Prince, Thomas Lord.
4 Magnum Bonum, R. W. Foster.
5 Surpass Lacantique, J. Suthers, jun.
6 Earl St. Vincent, A. Taylor.
7 Prince Albert, J. Suthers, sen.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Duke of Lancaster, J. Suthers, sen
2 Fielde's Pizarro, A. Taylor.
3 Polyphemus, J. Suthers, jun.
4 Albion, J. Suthers, sen
5 Surpass Catafalque, A. Taylor.
6 Farrand's Liberty, J. Suthers, sen.
7 Black Prince, T. Lord.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Washington, J. Suthers, jun.
4 Maitre Partout, R. Brook.
5 Grotius, J. Suthers, sen.
6 La Belle Narene, A. W. Foster.
7 Violet Winner, J. Suthers, sen.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Violet Font Noir, ditto.
3 Bienfait, ditto.
4 Vulcan, J. Suthers, jun.
5 Roi de Siam, J. Suthers, sen.
6 Robottom's Incomp., J. Suthers, jun.
7 Gadsby's Magnificent, R. Brook.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, J. Suthers, jun.
2 Comte de Vergennes, ditto.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Suthers, jun.
4 Duc de Bronte, T. Lord.
5 Hero of the Nile, A. Taylor,
6 Dolittle, ditto.
7 Bacchus, J. Suthers, sen.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, T. Lord.
2 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
3 Lord Hill, R. W. Foster.
4 Comte de Vergennes, J. Suthers, jun.
5 Aglaia, J. Suthers, sen.
6 Claudiana, A. Taylor.
7 Duc de Bronte, J. Suthers, sen.

Breeders.

1 Dovedale Beauty, T. Lord.
2 Maid of Orleans, J. Suthers, sen.
3 Rose Breeder, A. Taylor.
4 Cato, R. W. Foster.

Selfs.

1 Cotherstone, J. Suthers, sen.
2 Min d'Or, J. Suthers, jun.
3 Hoyle's Canary, R. Brooke.

Colt's Prize.—Triomphe Royale, R. Brook

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Thomas Smith, the General Wolfe, top of North-gate, Blackburn, June 2.

Best Pan of Six Blooms.—Charles X., Bienfait, La Belle Nanette, San Joe, Davy's Queen Charlotte, Mason's Matilda, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., T. Chippendale.
2 Catafalque Superior, R. Howarth.
3 Surpass Catafalque, J. Holker.
4 Emperor Charles, J. Bramley.
5 Wellington, T. Chippendale.
6 Trafalgar, W. Broughton.
7 Atticus, J. Bramley.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, T. Whalley.
2 San Joe, R. Howarth.
3 Charles X., T. Whalley.
4 Paganini, R. Howarth.
5 Charbonnier, J. Holker.
6 Truth, R. Howarth.
7 Albion, T. Whalley.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Holker.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Louis XVI., ditto.
4 Dimerock, R. Howarth.
5 Beauty, J Holker.
6 La Belle Narene, J. Bramley.
7 Violet Winner, R. Ainsworth.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 General Bournevald, J. Bramley.
2 Bienfait, H. Ashworth.
3 Prince Le Cargas, R. Ainsworth.
4 Baguet, J. Holker.
5 Siam, T. Whalley.
6 Prince Elie, J. Holker.
7 Gibbons's No. 40, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J Tomlinson.
2 La Belle Nanette, T. Hollingworth.
3 Hero of the Nile, T Whalley.
4 Walworth, R. Howarth.
5 Dolittle, R. Ainsworth.
6 Seedling, T. Whalley.
7 Andromeda, R. Ainsworth.

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, J. Bradley.
2 La Vandycken, ditto.
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
4 Rose Unique, E. Walch.
5 Hebe, W. Wilkinson.
6 Vainquer, T. Whalley.
7 Lady Crewe, T. Chippendale

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Bradley.
2 Duke of Hamilton, R. Howarth.

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Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Unknown, J. Holker.
2 Sir Henry Pottinger, ditto.

Rose Breeders.
1 Anastasia, R. Howarth.
2 Lady Stanley, J. Bradley.

Judges.—Mr. J. Slater, Cheetham-hill; Mr. J. Foulds, Blackburn; Mr. T. Gibson, Great Harwood.

WAKEFIELD CENTRAL FLORIST SOCIETY.

This society's annual show of tulips took place at the Griffin Inn, on the 4th of June, when the prizes were awarded as follows:—

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Catafalque, C Boocock.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Magnum Bonum, J. Cato.
4 Catafalque, ditto.
5 Ditto ditto.
6 Rufus, J. Steel.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Rufus, J. Cato.
2 Polyphemus, ditto.
3 Catafalque, C. Boocock.
4 Sir Sidney Smith, J. Cato.
5 Catafalque, ditto.
6 George IV., J. Steel.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Cato.
2 La Belle Narene, ditto.
3 Unknown, C. Boocock.
4 Baguet, J. Steel.
5 La Belle Narene, J. Cato.
6 Partout, J. Steel.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Doctor Newton, J. Cato.
2 Baguet, J. Steel.
3 Washington, ditto.
4 Violet le Bing, C. Boocock.
5 Bienfait, J. Cato.
6 Unknown, ditto.

Feathered Roses.
1 Heroine, J. Steel.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Lady Crewe, ditto.
4 Heroine, J. Cato.
5 Unknown, ditto.
6 Lady Crewe, J. Steel.

Flamed Roses.
1 Triomphe Royale, J. Steel.
2 Aglaia, J. Cato.
3 Walworth, J. Steel.
4 Triomphe Royale, C. Boocock.
5 Aglaia, J. Cato.
6 Triomphe Royale, ditto.

Breeders.
1 Lady Crewe, J. Cato.
2 Seedling, C. Boocock.
3 Polyphemus, J. Steel.
4 Seedling, C. Boocock.
5 Ditto ditto.
6 Polyphemus, J. Cato.

Mr. W. Hall, an amateur, exhibited two trays of cut flowers, comprising fuchsias, geraniums, calceolarias, &c.; also a splendid stand of pansies, which drew the admiration of the company present.

Judges.—Mr. A. Hall, nurseryman and florist; and Messrs. B. & T. Parker.

TULIP SHOW.

The members of the Duke of Lancaster Floral Society held their annual show of tulips on Monday, June 4, at the house of Mr. J. Moreton, the John O'Gaunt Inn, Rothwell Haigh, near Leeds. The judges were Messrs. W. Dobbins and J. Bastow, Leeds.

First Pan.—Surpass Catafalque, Polyphemus, La Belle Narene, Gibbons's Seedling, Lady Crewe, Triomphe Royale, Golden Hero, W. Chadwick.

Second Pan.—Surpass Catafalque, Rufus, Washington, Princess Royal, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Maid of Orleans Breeder, J. Gill.

Premier Prize.—Lord Hill, W. Chadwick.

Feathered Bizarres
1 Surpass Catafalque, W. Chadwick.
2 Napoleon, J. Fryer.
3 Firebrand, W. Chadwick.
4 Sovereign, J. Gill.
5 Duc de Savoy, ditto.
6 Crown Prince, J. Fryer.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, J. Fryer.
2 Rufus, J. Gill.
3 Charles X., W. Chadwick.
4 Bolivar, ditto.
5 Sir Sidney Smith, J. Fryer.
6 Don Carlos, W. Chadwick.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 La Belle Narene, W. Chadwick.
2 Troletta, J. Fryer.
3 Baguet, J. Gill.
4 Washington, ditto.
5 Vulcan, J. Fryer.
6 Partout, ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Fond Noir, J. Fryer.
2 Alcoran, ditto.
3 Princess Royal, J. Gill.
4 Gibbons's Seedling, W. Chadwick.
5 Bienfait, J. Fryer.
6 Roi de Siam, ditto.

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Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, W. Chadwick.
2 La Belle Nanette, ditto.
3 Heroine, J. Gill.
4 Aglaia, J. Fryer.
5 Cerise Primo, W. Chadwick.
6 Triomphe Royale, ditto.

Flamed Roses.
1 Lord Hill, W. Chadwick.
2 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
3 Aglaia, ditto.
4 Unique, J Fryer.
5 Ruby, W. Chadwick.
6 Josephine, ditto.

Breeders.
1 Van Amburg, J. Gill.
2 Maid of Orleans, ditto.
3 Polyphemus, J. Fryer.
4 Old Dutch, W. Chadwick.
5 Catherine, J. Gill.
6 Walworth, J. Fryer.

Selfs.
1 Cotherstone, W. Chadwick.
2 Golden Hero, ditto.
3 Min d'Or, ditto.
4 Maria Bella, J. Fryer.
5 Sovereign, W. Chadwick.
6 Flag, J. Fryer.

NOTTINGHAM FLORISTS' SOCIETY,

Crown Inn, June 5.

TULIPS.

Feathered Bizarres.
Premier.—Magnum Bonum, Mr. Gibson
1 Grand Duke, ditto
2 Elizabeth, Mr. Harpham.
3 Duc de Savoy, Mr. Frearson.
4 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Gibson.
5 Platoff, ditto.
6 Sovereign, Mr. J. F. Wood.

Flamed Bizarres.
Premier.—Polyphemus, Mr. Gibson.
1 Captain White, Mr. J. F. Wood.
2 Lord Milton, Mr. Frearson.
3 Polyphemus, ditto.
4 Lord Hawkesbury, Mr. J. F. Wood.
5 Earl of Nottingham, Mr. Gibson.
6 Pilot, Mr. Harpham.

Feathered Byblœmens.
Premier.—Black Bagot, Mr. Gibson.
1 Santa Sophia, Mr. Frearson.
2 Black Bagot, Mr. Gibson.
3 Seedling, Mr. J. F. Wood.
4 Brown's Wonder, ditto.
5 Washington, Mr. Wasnidge.
6 Portia, Mr. J. F. Wood.

Flamed Byblœmens.
Premier.—Q. Charlotte, Mr. J. F. Wood.
1 Spencer's Firstrate, ditto.
2 Heloise, ditto.
3 La Bien Amie, Mr. Gibson.
4 Incomparable Cid, ditto.
5 Thompson's Byb., Mr. Harpham.
6 Beaute Virginale, Mr. Gibson.

Feathered Roses.
Premier.—Heroine, Mr. J. F. Wood.
1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Gibson.
2 Lady Middleton, Mr. J. F. Wood.
3 Monument (Dixon), ditto.
4 Sherwood Rose, Mr. Gibson.
5 Comte de Vergennes, Mr. J. F. Wood.
6 Dixon's Huntress, ditto.

Flamed Roses.
Premier.—Triom. Royale, Mr Frearson.
1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Harpham.
2 Guerrier, Mr. Frearson.
3 Mason's Matilda, ditto.
4 Flambeau, Mr. Harpham.
5 Lord Hill, Mr. Wasnidge.
6 Aspasia, Mr. J. F. Wood.

Light Red Flamed Bizarres.
Premier.—Plutarch, Mr. Gibson.
1 Semper Augustus, Mr. J. F. Wood.
2 Osiris, ditto.
3 Duke of Lancaster, Mr. Frearson.
4 Captain White, Mr. J. F. Wood.
5 Sir Harry Smith, ditto.
6 Dixon's Autocrat, ditto.

Breeders.
Premier.—Lady Stanley, Mr. Gibson.
1 Grace Darling, ditto.
2 Lady Flora Hastings, ditto.
3 Lady Jane Grey, ditto.
4 Catherine, ditto.
5 Sable Monarch, ditto.
6 Anastasia, ditto.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Henry Tate's, Boar's Head, Halifax, June 6.

Premier Prize.—Rose Unique, J. Cockcroft.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Waterloo, J. Cockcroft.
2 Trafalgar, ditto.
3 Kouli Khan, ditto.
4 Charles X., ditto.
5 Firebrand, J. Jackson.
6 Strong's Bolivar, J. Cockcroft.
7 Seedling, ditto.
8 Goud Beures, ditto.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Albion, J. Cockcroft.
2 Surpasse Catafalque, J. Jackson.
3 Glory of Holland, J. Cockcroft.
4 Wolstenholme's Bizarre, ditto.
5 Sir Sidney Smith, ditto.
6 Rising Sun, ditto.
7 General Chasse, ditto.
8 Crown Prince, ditto.

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Feathered Bybloemens.
1 Robotham's Incomp. J. Cockcroft.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Reine d'Egypt, ditto.
4 Maitre Partout, ditto.
5 Laura, ditto.
6 La Belle Narene, ditto.
7 Mango, ditto.
8 Violet Winner, ditto.

Flamed Bybloemens.
1 Diana Bruin, J. Cockcroft.
2 Bienfait, ditto.
3 Incomparable Cid, ditto.
4 La Belle Narene, ditto.
5 Roi de Siam, ditto.
6 Roi d'Amazon, ditto.
7 Baguet, ditto.
8 La Admirable, ditto.

Feathered Roses.
1 Comte de Vergennes, J Cockcroft.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Dolittle, ditto.
4 Lady Middleton, ditto.
5 Heroine, ditto.
6 Walworth, ditto.
7 Ely's No. 48, ditto.
8 Ely's No 26, ditto.

Flamed Roses.
1 Unique, J. Cockcroft.
2 Reid's No. 39, ditto.
3 Vesta, ditto.
4 Cerise Belle Forme, ditto.
5 Lord Hill, ditto.
6 Lady Crewe, ditto.
7 Walworth, ditto.
8 Triomphe Royale, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.
2 Seedling, J. Cockcroft.
3 Unknown, J. Jackson.
4 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.

Bybloemen Breeders.
1 Seedling, J Hinscliff.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.
4 Ditto ditto.

Rose Breeders
1 Lady Crewe, J. Jackson.
2 Glaphra, ditto.
3 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.
4 Ditto ditto.

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, J. Cockcroft.
2 Seedling, J. Hinscliff.
3 Lord Morpeth, J. Cockcroft.
4 Whittaker's Flag, ditto.

Judges.—Mr. W. Mitchell, New Lvith, Warley; Mr. R. Summerscales, King Cross; Mr. J. Walmsley, Mixenden.

Exhibiters.—Mr. J. Hinscliff, Lightcliff; Mr. J. Cockcroft, Rocks Ovenden; Mr. John Jackson, Oldham.

FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

The members of the Felton Union of Florists and Horticulturists held their annual exhibition of tulips, pansies, and vegetables, being their second show for the season, on Monday, June 11, at Mrs. Melrose's, the Widdrington Arms Inn, Felton, when the prizes were awarded as follows:—

Rose Tulips.—The 1st prize to Mr. John Morris, of Sleekburn, for Rose Cerise Triumphant; the 2nd to Mr. Thos. Dawson, of Acklington, for Duchess of Clarence; the 3rd and 5th to Mr. J. Crossling, of Felton Park, for Rose Heroine and Rose Primo; the 4th to J. Grahamsley, Esq. Felton, for Triomphe Royale; and the 6th to Mr. A. Gowens, Felton, for Amadis.

Bybloemen Tulips.—The 1st, 3rd, and 4th prizes to Mr. A. Gowens, for Violet Imperial, Perle Blanche, and Alexander Magnus, the 2nd to Mr. Morris, for Grand Prior; the 5th to James Thompson, Esq. Morpeth, for Constant; and the 6th to Mr Crossling, for Incomparable Amazon.

Bizarre Tulips.—The 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 6th prizes to Mr. A. Gowens, for Surpass Catafalque, Polyphemus, Catafalque Superior, Old Dutch Catafalque, and Glory de Haarlaem; and the 3rd to Mr. Dawson, for Demetrius.

Pansies.—The 1st prize for the best stand of six varieties, to Mr. Crossling, for Pitho, Rainbow, Miss Theresa Riddell, Supreme, Crossling's Golden Gauge, and Isabella; the 2nd to J. Thompson, Esq. for Supreme, Thompson's Lord Morpeth, Rainbow, Isabella, and two seedlings; and the 3rd to Mr Crossling, for Pizarro, Ne plus ultra, Isabella, Optimus, Golden Gauge, and Midnight.

Vegetables.—For the best two cabbages, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes to Mr. John Cookson, Red Lion Inn; for the best three stems of rhubarb, the 1st prize to Mr. A. Gowens, the 2nd to Mr. Thomas Slack, and the 3rd to Mr. Wm. Scott. An extra prize was awarded to Mrs. Hudson, for a dish of very fine potatoes; and another to Mr. Cookson, for a dish of large gooseberries.

The table of flowers contained many choice and rare specimens, which were much admired. The vegetable productions also were very good, and the large Victoria rhubarb exceeded anything of the kind ever exhibited here before.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

A CHAPTER ON PINKS.

BY J. SLATER, FLORIST, CHEETHAM-HILL, NEAR MANCHESTER.

In a former number of the *Midland Florist*, I promised a *Chapter on Pinks*, and I cannot better introduce the subject than by giving the history and properties of the flower.

The pink was first discovered in the time of Augustus Cæsar, in that part of Spain called Biscay, then inhabited by the Cantabri, a ferocious and warlike people. They rebelled against the then masters of the world, and it was during the struggles which ensued that the plant was discovered and sent to Rome, where it was, according to Pliny, called *Cantabrica*.

In the days of Queen Elizabeth, it was first cultivated in its double state. Like the auricula, polyanthus, carnation, and picotee, it owes its improvement to the attention and perseverance of the English florist.

That rare and elegant ornament of the pink, called lacing, made its appearance on a flower named Major's Lady Stoverdale, about the year 1790. It was raised from seed, in the south of England. This decoration is formed by a continuation of the colour of the eye round the white or broad part of the petals, which gives the whole flower a most beautiful appearance.

The following are the properties of the pink, laid down in Lancashire and Yorkshire for nearly forty years:—

The stem should be strong, elastic and erect, and not less than twelve inches high; the calyx rather

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smaller and shorter, but nearly similar in form and proportion to that of a carnation; and the size of the flower should not be less than two inches and a half in diameter.*

The petals should be large, broad, and substantial, and have very fine fringed or serrated edges, free from large deep notches or indentations; but the best are termed *rose-leaved*, that is, without any fringe at all.†

The eye should be perfectly round, and of a bright or dark rich crimson or purple, resembling velvet; but the nearer it approaches to black the more it is esteemed. The proportion should be about equal to that of the white, that it may be neither too large nor too small. The broadest part of the *lamina*, or wide end of the petals, should be a clear snowy white, and quite distinct from the eye, without spot or tinge; except it be a laced pink, that is, one which is so called from its being ornamented by a continuation of the colour of the eye round each petal, called *its lacing*, which should be bold, clear, and distinct, leaving a considerable portion in the centre perfectly free from tinge or spot. A red-laced pink ought to be of a bright light red, and the nearer it approaches to scarlet the more highly it is prized.‡

Much difference of opinion exists, as to whether there should be a white edging beyond the lacing. I am of opinion that the lacing ought to come to the edge, as in the picotee, and show not the least white. This is generally adopted in the north, and as the properties laid down, or rather acted upon, have been strictly adhered to, from time immemorial, I am

* The pod ought to be long, which will prevent it from bursting. Too many of the southern varieties have what may be termed a *marble pod*, that is, nearly round, and require great care to prevent them bursting. The flower ought to make a true circle, without indenture.

† The flowers ought to consist of at least sixteen petals, and be perfectly free from those numerous small ones which so generally prevail in the southern varieties.

‡ There are three classes of pinks shown in the north—*black and white*, *purple-laced*, and *red-laced*. The first portion alludes to the black and white, the centre of which ought to be a true circle, or, as it is termed, a *moon*, without the slightest starring to the edge, as the ground of some auriculas do. The lacing of a purple or red pink ought to be the same colour as the eye.

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induced to adopt this system; besides, the pink is of the same family as the picotee, and if one is to have an edging of white why not the other? The moon or centre of the pink has been adopted by Mr. Glenny, in his diagram of the flower, and he has laid down some beautiful standards. I consider that point as settled, but he advocates the white edge beyond the lacing. This is a matter of opinion, and where the contrary has been acted upon long before the southern florists were great cultivators of the flower, I cannot see why custom ought not to prevail; besides, as I before stated, the picotee has no white edging, and it may be termed with strict propriety a laced carnation. The size of most southern pinks is attained by long petals, commonly termed in this locality, from their narrowness, *strap-leaved*. The pink named Jones's Huntsman is one that may be taken as a criterion and basis of all improvements in the flower.

Having thus given the properties of the pink, I will now describe a few which have fallen under my notice during the present season.

Willmer's Laura.—The moon or circle of this flower is bad, the lacing different from the eye, the petals not at all flat, and the edges not rose-leaved; the flower large.

Kirtland's Prince Albert.—Flower large, moon deficient, edge paler than the centre, rose-leaved, white excellent; a striking flower.

Kerr's Harriet.—Flower large, moon deficient, lacing lighter than the centre, petals good, but do not lie flat.

Hodge's Melona.—The flower not large, good moon, not strictly rose-leaved, the lacing paler than the centre.

Dr. Moore.—Purple-laced, form and moon good, flower small, and better than most that are termed rose-leaved. This variety has been disputed as being a seedling; the majority are of opinion that it is the one called *Mango*, and is now shown under that name.

Kay's Magnificent.—Flower medium sized, purple-laced, the moon good, and the lacing same colour, the petals equal to most called rose-leaved.

Jones's Albion.—Flower good size, moon good, lacing same colour as moon, petals rather narrow, and what are termed *spade pointed*.

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Young's XX.—This pink has had more commendation passed upon it than any other, and the failure I think much greater. The flower has size, but at the expense of the petals, which are extremely narrow; the moon very starry, the white and the pod good.

Outrim's Staffordshire Beauty.—Flower large, moon good, lacing same colour as moon, the white uncommonly good, petals extremely broad and fine, and equal to most called rose leaved.

Outrim's Mrs. Outrim.—Flower not large, moon good, lacing colour of the eye, petals good, equal to most called rose-leaved, and much resembles Mango in size, &c.

Outrim's Pottery Lass.—Flower small, moon not so good as the others, petals the same, as respects being rose-leaved; the colour, which is purple, does not appear bright.

Hand's Pilot.—Flower large, moon good, lacing colour of the eye, petals good, and nearly equal to Jones's Huntsman in every respect.

The pinks raised by Mr. Outrim, a gentleman of Stoke-on-Trent, are not yet sent out, and the notes made of them were from a single bloom on each plant. The general opinion is, that the first two will be an acquisition to the purple-laced class; I have seen blooms of them since, after the plants had been taken up and replanted, and they fully bore out the remarks made.

[To be continued.]

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

In resuming my contributions on south country-grown tulips, I shall renote some already reported, and will also take the liberty of reviewing those in your twenty-second number. I am in the yearly practice of viewing Groom's collection, in the different stages of bloom, as well as other beds of tulips; I think, therefore, I should or ought to know something of their true and general character. It is on this point I have a desire so to do, and if any gen-

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tleman will be kind enough to do the same by me, I shall esteem it a favour, provided it is done in a friendly and kind spirit, and not in a controversial one; if in the latter, I will not take upon myself to notice any angry disputations. The Rev. S. Creswell will please excuse me in letting in a little more light in No. 22. This gentleman has acquitted himself *à mervielle* for a one day's view at Groom's.

King of Saxony (Groom).—Fourth-row rose. The season was sadly against this noble flower. Its general character a strong beam, with flame and feather, but when well done the beam is less, with fine feather. I saw three or four in the latter state, the colour splendid dark, with brilliant carmine. I prefer the strong beam, which makes it very conspicuous in the bed. See page 104.

Duchess of Sutherland.—In extra fine condition, almost all of them well done. See page 103.

Bernadotte (Strong).—First-row bizarre. Fine and dark feather in its best state, but inclined to sport. 2s. 6d.

Benjamin (Strong).—First-row bizarre. Flame and feather. This also is inconstant. 2s. 6d.

Baron Gersdorff (Groom).—Second-row byblœmen. Very pure ground, good cup, crimson marone flame and feather. £7 7s.

Maid of Athens.—Fourth-row byblœmen. This is considered by many amateurs to be a beat of Thalia. £5 5s.

Cerise du Chat.—First-row rose. A brilliant red, and has blown with me three consecutive years very fine, but every now and then will come rather full and heavy, 5s.

Reform (Goldham).—Of the Poly. character. Third bizarre.

Fazio, or Count Fazio (Clark).—Second-row bizarre. The ground not brilliant, flamed red. There is character in this, which makes it taking as a bed flower.

Duke of Buckingham (Groom).—Fourth-row bizarre. Orange ground, dark feather, nearly black, the cup good. £10 10.

Earl Douglas (Delaforce).—Pretty tidy flower for out bed, but will bleach a little under canvass. Third bizarre. 5s.

Lady Vernon (Groom).—Third-row rose. In the way of King of Saxony, but of a brighter colour, and rather more inclined to feather. £5 5s.

Titian (Rutley).—Second-row bizarre. Ground not brilliant, but clean, and clear marking of brown, flame and feather. A neat thing. 7s. 6d.

Lord Sandon.—There were many in Groom's bed, and they all appeared the same. The blooms were not sufficiently expanded for me to decide; nevertheless, I should say the report in vol. 2, p. 308, is correct.

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Earl of Shrewsbury (Walker).—In the way of his William IV. but not so steady.

Madalina.—A seedling of Groom's, named by me, about eight years since. Dark short feather, with a little flame. A sweet pretty second-row byblœmen. 21s.

Copernicus (Davidson).—Fourth-row bizarre. Good cup, red flame and feather.

Priam (Lawrence).—Third-row byblœmen. Dark flame and feather. In its best state the feathering predominates. 40s.

ON THE ADVANTAGES LIKELY TO BE ATTAINED BY TRAINING GOOSEBERRY TREES AS ESPALIERS.

BY THE EDITOR.

We went into one of the small gardens in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, a short time ago, and amongst other things that took our fancy, was *an espalier gooseberry tree,* of the rather extraordinary width of fourteen feet. It was at the time full of fruit, and remarkably healthy.

We are so convinced of the excellence of this plan, that we are desirous of recommending it for general adoption, especially to those who grow gooseberries for exhibition. We dare say there will be some persons ready enough to puff at such an innovation on old-established ways, but we think we can make out a sufficiently good case to induce a trial at any rate, which we trust will lead to its general practice. Some growers to whom we have mentioned it say, "Try it first, and if you succeed we will adopt the plan;" but they must recollect that if they never start till others have won, they gain but sorry praise for their exertions, and if the plan does succeed, of which we entertain no doubt, they will have lost several years. Now we will in the first place endeavour to enumerate some of the advantages. Suppose we have a wire trellis, made in the way that fences of that material are constructed, about

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four feet high, but instead of only three wires, we would have them six inches apart, to which the branches of the gooseberry trees might be attached; it will thus be obvious that the fruit would have equal advantages, the greater part being raised above the splash and dirt which often disfigure it under the present system. Perhaps one of the greatest mortifications the grower experiences, is the bursting of berries, often the night before a show. They hang so close to the ground, from which damp exhalations arise, which are kept down by the thick foliage of the tree above, and thus a moist atmosphere constantly surrounds the fruit, which renders its bursting of frequent occurrence. Now this is in a great measure prevented by training the trees as we suggest—the berries have the full benefit of air, sun, &c. so beneficial to other kinds of fruit, and in wet weather, the foliage is sooner dried, without rendering the fruit liable to drip. For protection also this will be found a superior plan; for small nets may be hung over the top wire, and pegged to the ground, two or three feet from the bottom, on each side. By this means, when the fruit is ripe, that dark-complexioned thief, *the black bird*, is prevented from skulking under the bushes, sucking the pulp of the berry, and leaving only the husk, as an evidence of his mischief; or, when the trees are in bloom, fir boughs may be hung from the top wire downwards, in the way gardeners often protect their apricots, peaches, and plums, on walls: this would, as in their case, be a good preventive, and by allowing a free circulation of air, be far preferable to calico.

There is yet another advantage. The roots of the trees would be more exposed to the action of the atmosphere; liquid manure might be applied at any time; and not only that, but every thing connected with the pruning, &c. could be attended to with the greatest ease. We have often seen gooseberry growers lying on their backs or bellies, with their heads under the trees, catching the caterpillars

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which feed on the leaves, causing much trouble and inconvenience. By this plan, these pests can be seen in a moment, without putting ourselves into such uncomfortable postures, and lime, or powdered hellebore (which, by the by, is an excellent thing to destroy them) can be applied at any time, with a common puff, and the trees are thus kept effectually cleansed.

Another advantage still. The berries that are forward may easily be retarded, either one or more, by hanging a piece of board before the fruit; or by any simple contrivance, an oiled cap might be put over the fruit, to keep it from rain or dew. These are hints which may be of service to any but "*old dorums*," who are up to all the moves, as far as good growing and bring their fruit in style to "the scale" goes.

We have often said we do not write to enlighten the "knowing ones." From our youth upwards we were always glad to receive a hint from any quarter, and our endeavours now are to be of service to those who are anxious to progress, and who delight to hear of improvements, whether in fruits, flowers, or vegetables. We have yet another idea, borrowed from what we saw in a garden somewhere near Ventnor, at the back of the Isle of Wight, some twenty-five years ago. We do not know whether the place is in existence now or not. It was a walled garden, and had belonged to a gentleman's house, that had been pulled down. A terrace went round the garden, the space in the centre being cultivated, and the walls were covered with fruit trees—vines, &c. and what struck us most forcibly, was a trained mulbery, which bore splendid fruit. To hasten to maturity the bunches of grapes, glasses, like a flat bell-glass, with a hole in the side, were used. The small unripe bunch was introduced through the hole, and the glass suspended from a nail in the wall, by a string or wire attached to its knob. We recollect that the friend with whom we

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were in company, purchased one of the glasses of the old man who rented the garden. Now if these glasses were beneficial to the grapes, might they not also hasten the ripening of gooseberries? For general cropping we know that the plan would be of little use, but in growing gooseberries for exhibition, it is possible that it might be of service, and a favourite gooseberry might thus be preserved from many accidents.

We think we hear some of the old gentlemen before alluded to saying, "It won't do." We say, *try it*; and then we shall be happy to hear their verdict.

At all events, we mean to give the espaliers a fair trial; but we know that there are many growers who could devote more attention to the trees than we can, and most likely would produce more favourable results. We invite their co-operation, and shall be glad to record their experiments.

THE CULTIVATION OF ROSES IN POTS.

BY E. BECK, ESQ. ISLEWORTH.

[Completed from page 264.]

As soon as the plants show that they are fairly settled into their new soil, and are trying to feel at home, give them plenty of air, and particularly at night, until increasing cold, with the advancing season, warns you to cover up the tea-scented varieties, which will be destroyed by frost. For the hardier kinds, we must now arrange upon the same system as we adopt with those planted in our beds or borders, the only difference being that we shall plant them out in their pots. For this purpose, throw out a trench sufficiently deep to allow of their being plunged, their bottoms resting upon a couple of bricks, so as to allow perfect drainage, without giving the roots anything to run into, for no plant is more affronted

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with its roots being meddled with at the time of growth, than the rose. When the plants are all arranged in the trenches, fill in with sawdust, or any similar material, treading it well down and around them, and covering each with a mulching of dung, and there they may remain for the winter. I say nothing about the necessary pruning, because it is precisely the same as that required for the out-door plants, and the when and the how to do it is better known to cultivators resident in your latitude, than it can be by a southron.

As the growing season comes on—that sweet season emblematic of the resurrection from the dead, the plants will require considerable attention, given, not in one great effort, but frequently, in watching for and destroying the maggot, that insidious enemy to the rose. The green fly is easily disposed of. Clear out one of the frames, give each pot a twist round, to release it from the pressure of the surrounding material, then lift them, place them in the frame, and fumigate them thoroughly, washing them well afterwards with rain water, through a syringe. How well do they repay for these little attentions, in their clean beautiful foliage and succeeding buds and flowers. There then remains no more to be done, beyond giving them, with the advancing season, some liquid manure. As they come into bloom, you have only to lift them, and putting them into larger pots, with damp moss forced into the space between, to keep their roots cool, and then they are ready for the exhibition, or any other purpose for which they may be required. As they are done with, return them again into their places, taking off all decayed flowers and seed vessels, and again thoroughly smoking and clearing them of aphides. In the autumn, the perpetuals will be covered with buds; then lift them again, and if you have an empty greenhouse or frame, place them there, and keep them warm at night, with air by day, and if you only give them common attention, you will have something worth

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any friend or neighbour coming to see. This is the time to talk of, and the way to show the value of the perpetual varieties; and do not leave it till the middle of the day before you visit them, but go in the morning, early, after they have been closed up all night, and after the syringe has been drawn over them, and you will find yourself amply repaid for your care and attention, in the dark days of November. The bloom over, return them again to their original quarters, after taking off all the top soil and replacing it with fresh; and again give them a good mulching. A shift once in two years will be found quite often enough, if the above instructions are attended to. Here ends my contribution to the *Midland Florist;* the post which conveys it will bring me back any offering of a similar kind for the *Florist and Garden Miscellany,* should any of your readers feel inclined to favour me.

Worton Cottage, Sept. 6, 1849.

FRUIT TREES FOR A ROOD OF LAND.

BY THE EDITOR.

A QUERY has been started as to which would be the most serviceable apples and pears to plant on a rood of land, in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, and as what would be profitable there would likewise be suitable for almost any part of England, we will just show how we would ourselves proceed, were we possessed of a rood of land in the said neighbourhood.

In the first place, we would not plant *standard trees*, but *pyramids*, of both apples and pears, that is, young plants with straight leaders, and calculated to form conical trees, branching out near the surface of the ground.

This mode of training trees is far better than growing them with tall stems and large branching heads. They may be planted closer together, and

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should be set in rows, east and west, if possible, allowing twelve yards between each row, and eight yards from tree to tree. Between the trees in the rows, we would plant gooseberry and currant trees, as they would begin to bear directly, and would be paying something, while the other trees were getting into a bearing state. The space between the rows (twelve yards across) may be cultivated in any way the possessor chooses, but the propriety of having the trees at regular distances, with smaller fruit between, will be evident to every one.

We now come to the most proper trees for this rood of land, and we would rather plant a few good sorts than numerous varieties; that is to say, if profit and convenience of keeping, &c. is the object.

Spencer's Favourite is indeed a favourite with all cultivators in this neighbourhood. The tree is a free and good grower, and the fruit extremely handsome, of beautiful form, and when ripe of a fine yellow; it also comes early into bearing, is large, and when exhibited generally takes the first prize amongst baking apples. It is known in some parts of the country as *Queen Caroline*. The season of this excellent fruit is from the latter end of eptember to the latter end of January.

The Burton Pippin we can strongly recommend as an early apple. It is new and as yet dear, being worth perhaps one shilling and sixpence each dwarf plant. It is apparently a seedling from the Manx Codlin, but is a beautiful sort, when ripe of a rich cream colour, and red next the sun. It bears early and remarkably well, and is of fine flavour and good size.

The Wollaton Pippin is a first-rate late apple for small gardens. It is of French extraction. Some years ago, the late Lord Middleton had a collection of apples from France, and the only one thought worth preserving was this variety, the ticket of which had been effaced. It was known for years in the garden as "The Tool-house Door Sort," from the circumstance of its being planted close to the place where the men kept their spades, rakes, &c. Cuttings were given to the party with whom we served our apprenticeship, and in the nursery it was known as the Wollaton Pippin. The late R. Holden, Esq. of Nuttall Temple, we well recollect, sent six dwarf plants to the Horticultural Society of London, who speedily ascertained that it was the *Court Pendu Plat*, a name conveying an idea of the form and habit of the fruit

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which is, comparatively speaking, *flat* (plat), with a very short stem (court pendu). This variety is of dwarf and compact growth, the blossoms putting out later in the spring than any other sort we know of, and thus giving them a capital chance of escaping the frosts. The fruit is medium-sized, and in season from Christmas to April; it is remarkably handsome, and also excellent either for table or baking. In spring, when it becomes rather shrivelled, the flesh is pale yellow, and is certainly first-rate. It is also remarkable for the large size and plumpness of its pippins. The tree bears well and early; and, from its short stem, the fruit is not so liable to be blown off as some others are.

Dumelow's Seedling, or the Normanton Wonder, is another long-keeping handsome fruit, which was originated in this neighbourhood. On our strong and rather cold loamy soil, it does not bear so well as we could wish; but on the opposite side of the town of Nottingham, on soil of a black sandy nature, it bears most abundantly. The fruit is large, heavy, and acid, keeps till May, and is generally yellow, occasionally tinged with red.

We have now given one early variety, the Burton Pippin, which will do for either eating or baking; one middle season, Spencer's Favourite; and two late sorts, the Wollaton Pippin and Normanton Wonder, which we consider enow; but this, of course, depends on the cultivator's fancy.

In pears, there are few better than

The Hessel, for early and abundant bearing and general excellence, and these are qualities required by those whose object is profit. The tree is of pyramidal growth, very hardy, and we can safely recommend it.

The Beurré de Capiaumont is a new pear. It is a very abundant cropper, and will sell well. The habit of the tree is, however, rather spreading, which we do not like.

Knight's Monarch is a first-rate late pear, being in perfection in January. It is of medium size, good form, and very hardy.

The Aston Town is also a hardy pear, and very productive. We do not like it, however, so well as the Hessel, it having, from standards, a *grittiness* at the core; neither is it so handsome, a point of importance in the market, to those who cultivate a rood of land for profit.

We said gooseberries and currants ought to be planted in the rows with the apple and pear trees. For this purpose, few sorts are better than

The Warrington, or Aston Red.—A rough berry, very productive, bears carriage well, and will hang on the tree a long time.

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Lancashire Lad is also a great favourite of ours, for this purpose. *Crown Bob*, though an old sort, is very desirable.

In currants, we would recommend the *Haughton Castle* (red), the *White Dutch*, and *Black Naples*, as the best in their respective colours.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

ANOTHER new strawberry has been let out this season, and is said to be an improvement on that excellent variety Myatt's British Queen. We have neither seen nor tasted it, but it "comes out" with a high character, and that too from good authority. The horticultural public have so lately been "stung," that they, with good reason, may be shy in purchasing; but we believe they will not do wrong in adding KIRTLEY'S GOLIATH STRAWBERRY to their collections. In colour it is a beautiful scarlet; it is even larger than the Queen, and first-rate in flavour.

THE PINEAPPLE RUSSET.—This apple ought to be more generally cultivated. The flavour is most excellent, and it is of large size. Its season is about November.

DENYER'S VICTORIA PLUM.—This is a variety which has fruited with us most abundantly this season, on a pyramidal tree, about eight feet high, clothed with branches to the ground. We consider it to be

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extremely profitable. The fruit is of large size, and a purplish red; the tree is hardy, of handsome growth, and suitable for a small garden.

HOLLYHOCKS.

THE following, grown by Mr. Chater, who has possibly the best collection in England, have flowered very splendidly this season :—

Magnum Bonum.—Rich glossy marone.
Enchantress.—Deep rose.
Comet.—Splendid deep scarlet.
Model of Perfection.—Chocolate and white.
Attraction.—Puce and white, fine.
Queen.—Fine light rose.

To these we may add a most excellent white, that we grow, called *Bella Donna*, raised from a packet of seed which, as an especial favour, we obtained from a celebrated and successful cultivator. We raised about three hundred plants; they have bloomed most beautifully, and what is perhaps singular enough, the whole three hundred were as near alike as possible, perfectly double, and we should say, amongst the best in cultivation. We intend advertising both seed and plants in the next number, at a reasonable rate, to give every one an opportunity of growing this really beautiful variety.

TREES AND SHRUBS.

JASMINUM BIGNONACEA. *(The Bignonialike Jasmine.)*—A very stout and rapid climbing variety of the beautiful and fragrant jasmine. Our plant is most luxuriant, having made shoots from four to five feet in length during the past summer. It was originated in France, and for arbours, porches,

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lattice-work, or anything that requires speedily covering, it will be well adapted.

PRUNUS LUSCITANICUS FOXII.—This is a pretty variety of the Portugal Laurel, with very narrow serrated leaves. It will make a good addition to our hardy evergreens.

JUNIPERUS COMMUNIS PENDULA. *(The Weeping Common Juniper.)*—To those who are fond of weeping trees, this evergreen will be an acquisition. For cemeteries it would be peculiarly appropriate.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

PLEROMA ELEGANS.—This very beautiful greenhouse plant was exhibited by Messrs. Henderson, at the Horticultural Society's rooms, Regent-street, on the 4th of September. The flowers are stated to be as large as a crown piece, of a beautiful violet purple, and produced in immense profusion. It is from the mountains of Peru.

BEGONIA CINNABERINA.—The most beautiful of its tribe. The flowers are orange scarlet, and it ought to be cultivated by every one.

VEGETABLES.

EARLY STRAWBERRY POTATO.—We have grown a few of this very excellent variety, and are much pleased with its appearance, as well as its flavour and other good qualities. It is large, heavy, and very productive.

GRANTHAM WHITE.—This potato was raised by the same person and at the same time as the Flour-

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ball. It is decidedly coarser than the latter variety, with a large and strong top. It is mealy and productive, and would do for field cultivation.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

SOME of our friends who send us seedlings may think us capricious—and so *we are*—and mortifying it is to them that our ideas and theirs do not correspond; but this we cannot help. We are delighted to see anything and everything that is an improvement, from *a wall nail to a cocoa nut*, and we are always ready to bear willing testimony to its excellence. But we must caution our friends relative to sending us *second blooms*, or *laterals*, or second-rate specimens, when the best have gone elsewhere. We call *a spade a spade;* and if our friends think that second-raters are good enough for *Nottingham*, they must not blame us for an adverse opinion; and to finish off, we must give them a touch of our Latin, which we sometimes drag out of memory's hoard, to illustrate our position, and we trust, that for those for whom it is intended, *verbum sat* will, if they are wise, be sufficient. Now we happen to have seen many beautiful things this season, and very many bad ones, and we only record here what arrived in good character, and such as we should like to add to our our own collection, when "either love or money can procure them."

PICOTEES.

Dodwell's Mrs. Turner.—A splendid heavy-edged purple, unlike anything else out; the petals smooth, well arranged, gently cupped, and of fine size. Better worth a guinea than many others half-a-crown. This opinion, of course, stands against us, and we feel sure the flower will substantiate our assertion.

Dodwell's Alfred.—Also heavy-edged purple, but in a different style; remarkable for its brilliancy of colour and beauty of marking.

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Harrison's Picnic.—This was a small flower, something in the style of Headley's King James. Heavy-edged red, good, in a scarce class. Whether this was a lateral or not, we cannot say: it came rather late, but it is a flower we consider promising.

Miss Rosa (Merryweather).—Of this we received six splendid blooms, of large size, good pod and petal, the white pure, margin well defined and of medium width, but will be classed as a heavy-edged rose.

Bunn's Lord Lewisham.—A very striking and high-coloured scarlet bizarre; most excellent form, stout petals, and certainly a very rich flower. The price, we understand, is moderate, an example which, we trust, others will profit by.

Wallis's Cradley Pet.—We do not know how many *pets* our friend Mr. Wallis may have, but we fancy this ought to be one of the *greatest*. It is a fine well-marked flower, with good pod, petal, and texture; the white or ground colour of much better character than the majority of scarlet flakes.

Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland.—Leicester has, of late, been famed for the production of some of the best picotees in cultivation. The above is another addition to the galaxy of beauty emanating from that neighbourhood. We do not like to use provincialisms more than we can help, but an old florist and first-rate judge, who stood at our elbow, when we opened the packet, exclaimed, "It's a *topper!*" This, of course, to the uninitiated needs explanation, and if we were to write a glossary of floricultural terms (an interminable job, by the by), we must include this significant north country designation of a first-rate flower. We quite agreed with the old man, and those who know and grow that fine sort, Marris's Prince Albert, will appreciate this, when we say that it is, at all events, its equal, and will possibly beat it.

Hollyoake's Mary.—A light-edged purple, of first-rate character. The lacing is dark and narrow, without bar or blemish; petal stout, and general properties fine.

Slater's Constellation.—A very rich and high-coloured crimson bizarre. The white is far better than the majority of this very beautiful class.

Touchstone.—A scarlet bizarre of large size, marking bold and well defined; a promising flower, with rather more petals than the generality of Lancashire flowers.

DAHLIAS.

Edward's Champion.—A very splendid bloom of this fine flower; deep crimson, or marone of great depth, with excellently-formed petals.

Edward's Magnificent.—A fine purple. This also has good form and petal; though rather shook in its transit, still there was ufficient evidence to prove it a very useful and desirable sort.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

COTTAGE ALLOTMENTS.—A GOOD EXAMPLE.

We are happy to record in our pages the following, which we extract from the *Derby Mercury;* and sure we are, that similar societies, if established in every village and town in the kingdom, would speedily have a most beneficial effect. We have repeatedly urged the adoption of similar means for the amelioration of the condition of the artizan and labourer, and we hail with pleasure every fresh society which has this object in view.

"Cottage Garden Society.—On Monday evening, a public meeting was held in the newly-erected national school-room, Belper (kindly lent for the occasion, by the Rev. Robert Hey, incumbent), for the purpose of explaining the effects and advantages of the cottage garden allotment system, and electing a president, trustees, treasurer, secretary, and committee. Mr. Hey was unanimously called upon to preside, and the meeting (a very numerous one indeed) was addressed at considerable length by the Rev. Chairman and most of the ministers of the town, as well as several gentlemen and artizans, who take a lively interest in the matter. We believe there is not a town of half the importance in the midland counties so badly supplied with good wholesome vegetables as Belper is at the present time, and the inhabitants generally being compelled to purchase such 'green garbage' as the refuse of the Derby and surrounding markets, the society are endeavouring to procure land for allotments, and stimulating the poorer classes to cultivate them. We are glad to see their efforts so well responded to—upwards of twenty acres of land having been applied for during the preliminary arrangements of the society—and

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hope shortly to be able to say the land owners have come forward nobly, and placed lands sufficient at the disposal of the society to meet the demands of applicants."

A MISNOMER.—The byblœmen called Violet Alexander, to which we alluded in our August number, is, as we asserted, a seedling, raised by Mr. T. Abbot, of Stanton. Mr. Astill informs us, that when he exhibited it at York, he truly believed it was the variety named by him. We are glad to have this opportunity of noticing the mistake, in order that it may be rectified, as there is confusion enough in the nomenclature of tulips, in all conscience.

The following receipts are from an esteemed friend of ours, and as several correspondents have asked for information as to the *best way*, we now insert them:—

PRESERVED RHUBARB.—The stalks should be fresh, and the second growth, gathered about the 1st of August, and perfectly dry. Four pounds of rhubarb, peeled and cut; three pounds of Lisbon sugar; two ounces of candied lemon peel, cut small. This last should be put in after it has been boiled a quarter of an hour and well skimmed. It may then be boiled three-quarters of an hour longer. Put it into small jars, cover with brandied papers, and *tie down whilst hot.*

RASPBERRY VINEGAR.—To each quart of bruised raspberries add half a pint of best vinegar; let it remain covered all night, then strain, and add three-quarters of a pound of lump sugar to every pint of juice, boil twenty minutes, and bottle for use.

REVIEWS.

CURTIS'S BEAUTIES OF THE ROSE. *London: Groombridge and Sons. Bristol: John Lavars and Sons, Bridge-street.*

ANY work on the queen of flowers, the rose, we always hail with pleasure, and more especially when, like our own, it is a provincial. We have looked

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through this quarterly periodical with unmixed pleasure, arising from the truthfulness and beauty of the illustrations. It is sometimes thought, if a book is sent to us editors, "with the author's compliments," that we are bound to speak well of it: now we do not conceive ourselves *bound* to do anything of the kind, whatever other goodnatured people may say or think—of that we think very little, and, to speak plain, we care less. *Some of our friends will understand this.* Of the beautiful drawings on stone, executed by Mr. H. Curtis, we cannot speak in too high terms; they possess a softness and beauty which must be seen to be appreciated. The illustrations are, *Devoniensis*, a first-rate rose, and an English variety too, which, amidst the mass of foreign roses, with the similarity of peas, that inundate our borders, ought to be highly esteemed. *Duchess of Sutherland*, a sweet perpetual. *Cloth of Gold*, a magnificent rose, but which will hardly reach the splendour in the Midlands that it does in Jersey and more favoured climes; nevertheless, we have flowered it from a dormant bud, in tolerable style, but certainly we want the warm summers and peculiar soil to bring it out in its true character. *Armosa* (Bourbon), a really good thing, is the last. We have it now (Sept. 12), as a standard, flowering most brilliantly. It is a double rose, nearly the colour of that much-prized cottage favourite, the Old China. We think Messrs. Curtis have done well in selecting their subjects for illustration. We do not know how far two shillings and sixpence a quarter may suit the pockets of our readers (we only wish they could all afford it), but this we know, the work is well worth the money.

THE FLORIST. Edited by E. Beck, Esq.

THE beautiful *Abelia florabunda*, a nearly or quite hardy shrub, illustrates the twenty-first number of this excellent periodical. It appears a very desirable

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thing, from the alpine regions of Mexico. The specimen plant is with Messrs. Pince and Co. of Exeter, who planted it out on rockwork, where it forms a beautiful pendent bush, and was covered last spring with more than two thousand rich purple crimson flowers. There is, amongst other good papers, "My own Journal," by Mr. Rivers. Madame Guillot is described as a fine new perpetual, deep pink, large, cupped, very double, and excellent form. Jeanne d'Arc is stated to be the nearest approach to white of all the perpetuals, being delicate flesh colour, and finely shaped. We should say that this will be a great acquisition, as diversity of colour is so much wanted in this class of flowers. There is also a very useful list of carnations and picotees, for early flowering and exhibition, by Mr. C. Turner, with other papers, of general interest.

Part III.

QUERIES.

I have often thought of cutting down some very worthless apple trees, in my garden, but have been told that though the stems are at least a foot in diameter, they may be grafted with success. Will you, pray, give me your opinion, in the next number, and say when, how, and what sorts they had better be grafted with, and oblige yours, &c.

Worcester. J. Ross.

The Flourball potatoes bought of you, last season, have turned out most excellently. From one peck I have dug up and stored eighteen pecks, and, without exception, I think them the best yet grown. Do they bear flowers? Mine have not. Will the small potatoes, the size of a blackbird's egg, do for seed next year? I have been in the habit of giving my small ones to the pigs, but if these will do, I shall gladly use larger ones for my family. Pray excuse the simplicity of my questions; there may be others besides myself to whom the information would be acceptable.

Near Birmingham W. Smith, *Cottager.*

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Will you tell me how many kinds of nuts and filberts you are acquainted with? and which are the most profitable, and best adapted for cultivation, &c.? I. WILSON.

I wish to lay down the front of my house in grass. Please to inform me, in your next number, of the proper seeds, to produce a *fine* turf, and when to sow. I planted a laurel hedge last spring, and wish to keep it trimmed and cut, to make it thick. Please mention the proper time for doing this.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

What am I to do? In my collection of tulips I have many varieties, which I have cultivated for the last twenty years, with stained cups. Now I am led by your observations to conclude that they are comparatively worthless. Will you, in your next number, tell me whether I should condemn them? I have also some seedlings, raised from Sable Rex; they are now four years old; will they, do you suppose, partake of the defective stain of the parent? HENRY SCOTT.

I am most desirous of cultivating that beautiful tribe of plants the carnation and picotee, but have not much money to spare. How should I proceed? If I select individual sorts, the price frightens me, and two or three pounds will not go far. Your advice, in the present number, will greatly oblige.

Exeter. MARY JAMIESON.

[If our correspondent will apply to any respectable florist, in her own neighbourhood, stating the sum which she would be disposed to expend, we have no doubt but a fair collection will be attained cheaply. She may then, in after years, add a few gems each season. We can supply very fine sorts, reasonably, if left to our own selection.]

I am striking some verbenas, and not having the luxury of a greenhouse, please say, in your next number, if they can be preserved in tolerable health, by giving them the protection of a dwelling-house, and if a room without fire will do, and oblige

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

[We have never tried to winter them in a dwelling-house; but would prefer a room without fire; and if kept near the window, and carefully attended to, we believe they would succeed.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A SUBSCRIBER.—We have inquired of several friends, both at Derby and in Derbyshire, and cannot ascertain anything of it. We trust the query in our September number will yet elicit the information required.

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DISEASED NECTARINE TREE.—W. C. N.—The low situation is evidently the cause. We would advise a removal of the soil and substituting fresh loam, a shortening of the roots, and keeping the young shoots thin on the wall. If this does not do, we should remove it, and plant some more suitable tree.

WIRE GUARDS FOR PEAS.—We think the idea a very good one. They would be useful for many things besides those J. M. alludes to.

THE BEST WAY TO MAKE A STRAWBERRY BED.—J.R.—We should, if possible, prefer a strong loam; in light highly-manured land, they make a deal of foliage at the expense of the fruit. We should dig the soil deeply, burying in it some very rotten manure, and plant in rows, eighteen inches asunder, and at least twelve inches from plant to plant; but we think eighteen inches square would be the better distance. There seems a loss of ground, when the plants are put in, but when they attain their full size, it will be found plenty near enough, and the fruit will be larger and more abundant. If J. R.'s garden is a light soil, he had better procure as many loads as may be deemed sufficient of strong red loam, to mix with it. The extra expense will be amply repaid.

A correspondent asks for the name of the best cucumber for exhibition. There are many good varieties, such as Manchester Improved, &c., but the sort generally estemed in this neighbourhood, and which makes a fine handsome fruit, is the Infant.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR OCTOBER.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

WHEN all *carnation layers* are taken off and potted, as we presume they are by this time, it frequently happens that the parent plants or stools have a few nice shoots, and when they are new or valuable sorts, it will be advisable to turn them out of the blooming pots into a well-prepared border, where, next season, if they do not produce as fine flowers as layers, still they will bring a valuable crop of increase. The soil in which *carnations* have been grown is often used by tulip fanciers to enrich the bed intended for the bulbs. It is a good plan also to place the layers which are potted under the lights of frames, to keep them from the heavy drenching rains of autumn. To

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wards the latter end of the month, they may be put in their winter quarters. We have seen them kept through the winter in most admirable condition, in a large boarded frame, with wooden shutters, the pots being plunged in leaves.

Tulips.—Put in offsets, without delay, and make the final arrangement of the bulbs for the best bed or beds, preparatory to planting, which may be done in the last fortnight.

Auriculas.—These should now be put into their frames. We hope some of our readers will try the revolving frame, mentioned at page 233. It would soon pay for itself, in the health and safety of the plants. Keep clean from insects, and take care that the surface soil in the pots does not become hardened. An oyster shell is a good thing to lay on the top, on which to pour the water; by this means, the fibres are not washed bare.

Pinks.—Make up the beds as speedily as possible, and fill up vacancies, if any.

GREENHOUSE.

Fuchsias are such general favourites, that we believe very many of our readers cultivate them. They may now be cut back, and put into smaller pots, during their season of rest.

Geraniums should be sparingly watered, especially *scarlets*. A great and rapid improvement is taking place in these beautiful flowers. Young plants, struck from cuttings, which have been, like our own, raised in the open border, without either glass or shade, ought to have made a fresh start, and got tolerably well established. Give plenty of air to these things, in the greenhouse, and avoid fire-making as much as possible.

If *scarlet geraniums* have been plunged in pots, in the open border, they should now be lifted, and placed under cover (an open shed (for instance), and after a few days, cut down. They may be kept with safety in any place where there is a moderate light, and secure from frost, even under the stage.

Hyacinths, narcissuses, stocks (Ten-week), and other things, for spring decoration, should be attended to.

The store pots, filled with struck cuttings of *verbenas, salvias, anagallises*, &c. for next summer's decoration, should be kept on shelves, as near the glass as possible. Should any damp or fog off, they should immediately be extracted.

Prune and tie in *passion flowers* and other greenhouse climbing plants. *Deutzia scaber*, if potted, makes a most beautiful ornament for the greenhouse. Great cleanliness in all that relates to the plants, is necessary and conducive to their health. Remove all dead and yellow leaves, as they appear, and when water is given, let it be in the morning.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Opportunities may be taken to prune and nail *wall trees, currants, gooseberries*, &c. Removals may also now be effected

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with safety. Those who have to put in *fruit trees*, had better do it early; they get superior plants to what they would do in spring, when the nurseries have been thinned of their best trees. In storing *fruit*, it is advisable to lay it on straw, and not in too large quantities. Mr. Donald, of Woking, Surrey, some years ago, pitted a quantity of Golden Knobs, a variety peculiar to that part, in the way of potatoes, and when opened in spring, the experiment was found to have been perfectly successful.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

Again we have to lament the effects of *potato disease*, and very much we fear this hitherto invaluable root will never be a safe crop to grow in future. We have seen and grown a few roots of Walker's Engineer, certainly a most valuable sort, and so distinct in the top and root, that it cannot by possibility be taken for any other variety. It grows upright, the foliage is dark, and if a potato top can be called so, this is very handsome. In storing *potatoes*, they should be carefully examined, and those that are partially affected, should be used immediately, or boiled for pigs; and here we may mention the plan adopted by some parties, last season. They boiled the diseased roots and mashed them down in tubs, till filled, when the surface was smoothed, and common melted grease poured over it. This keeps well through the season, and is used for feeding and fattening pigs.

Peas may be sown in dry and protected situations, towards the latter end of the month; previous to which, in order to avoid the ravages of mice, they should have a few drops of oil put amongst them, and then be well rubbed with powdered rosin.

Store every description of crop that requires it. *Carrots*, *parsnips*, *red beet*, and *horse raddish* are best kept in the cellar, in layers of sand, and are available at any moment.

A great breadth of *cabbage* should by all means be planted, and on every favourable opportunity stir between the rows.

Many gardens are at this season very full of weeds. Why should they rob the ground of that nutriment which would be so beneficial to the crops in spring? If hoeing cannot be done, by all means let them be pulled by the hand.

For the vacant spaces, get together manure, which should be dug in, and the soil ridged up. All sorts of ground-work should be proceeded with as opportunity serves; and in the shrubbery, evergreens should be removed. The early part of the month is a very good time.

Those who have plants in windows must recollect, that they are not to water them at all times alike. *Cactuses* will scarcely want any during the winter months; and all other plants will be better to remain in a state of comparative rest.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

GREAT PANSY SHOW, AT PERTH.

[*Abridged from the Perthshire Advertiser.*]

The sixth annual exhibition of the Scottish Pansy Society was held in the City-hall, Perth, on Friday, the 15th of June. It afforded an unusual treat to the admirers of the varied and beautiful productions, and more especially to the cultivators of that inimitable flower the pansy. Since the commencement of this society, it has been the means of stimulating its members to cultivate a much finer class of flowers. When we look back for a few years, and mark the rapid improvement that has taken place, it leads one to suppose that almost perfection itself has been attained.

Dealers, Twenty-four Blooms.—1. G. Rutherford, Nocknarrie, Strathmiglo, for Great Britain, Blooming Girl, Arethusa, Diana, Arabella, Conquering Hero, Almanzer, Rainbow, Optimus, Supreme, Premier, Duchess of Rutland, Argo, Pitho, Ne plus ultra, Black Prince, King of Prussia, Superb, Dazzle, Lord Hardinge, Sulphurea, Elegans, Pizarro, Exquisite, and Excellent. 2. Messrs. Downie and Laird, Edinburgh, for Miss J. Richardson, Albona, Constellation, Euphrosyne, Lord Hardinge, Marchioness of Lothian, Magnificent, Addison, Pitho, Ne plus ultra, Sambo, Polynices, Rosea Circle, Augustus, Duke of Norfolk, Cossack, Chalvey Rival, Supreme, Youell's Queen, Mrs. Bragg, Incomparable, Climax, Surplus, and Superb.

Gardeners or Amateurs, Eighteen Blooms.—1. Mr. Peter Cameron, Tulloch, near Perth, for Diamond, Hannibal, Pitho, Conquering Hero, Blooming Girl, Consolation, Superb, Goliath, Rainbow, Optimus, Supreme, Black Bess, Black Prince, Satirist, Dido, Mrs Harcourt, Incomparable, and Premier. 2. Mr A. King, Inveresk, Musselburgh, for Optimus, Constellation, Berryer, Rainbow, Pizarro, Brilliant Perfection, Climax, Supreme, Verax, Blooming Girl, Pliny, Marchioness of Ailsa, Douglas, Hercules, Beauty Supreme, Mary Jane, and Model of Perfection.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Mr. A. King, Inveresk, Musselburgh, for Optimus, Pliny, Brilliant Perfection, Lord Hardinge, Potentate, Climax, Model of Perfection, Rainbow, Shakspere, Supreme, Mary Jane, and Almanzar. 2. Mr. J. Don, Hay Park, Polmont, for Napoleon, Baroness Weimar, Rainbow, Madonna, Superb, Magnificent, Lord Nelson, Verax, Pliny, Climax, Ivanhoe, Supreme.

Six Blooms.—1. Mr. James Niven, Keir, Stirling, for Black Bess, Supreme, Premier, Ne plus ultra, Cracker, and Rainbow. 2. Mr. John Millar, Maryfield, Perth, for Optimus, Zabdi, Rainbow, Climax, Supreme, Duchess of Portland.

For seedlings, a first-class certificate was awarded to Mr. Neilson, Falkirk, for Claude Lorraine, a rich velvety purple, with a clear yellow ground colour, blotch good, smooth edges, form and substance fine. A first-class certificate was also awarded to Mr. Grieve, Kaimes Cottage, Edinburgh, for France Sycle, ground pale primrose, and belting of dark puce, form and substance good. Also, from Dickson & Co. Edinburgh, a dark self, recommended to be grown and shown again.

STOCKPORT TULIP SHOW,

At the House of Mr. Wm. Clegg, Golden Ball and Florists' Hotel.

Premier Prize.—Charles X., C. Potter.
Maiden Prize.—Comte de Vergennes, H. Warren.

Feathered Bizarres.	*Flamed Bizarres.*
1 Rising Sun, C. Potter.	1 Flamed De Gard, C. Potter.
2 Phœbe Clegg, T. Clegg.	2 Polyphemus, J. Earl.
3 Crown Prince, ditto.	3 Lustre, J. Hardy.
4 Duc de Savoy, ditto.	4 Lacantique, H Warren.
5 Magnum Bonum, ditto.	5 Magnum Bonum, ditto.
6 Unknown, D. Woolley.	6 Albion, L. Hussey.
7 Surpasse Catafalque, J. Earl.	7 Wright's 63, H. Warren.
8 Trafalgar, D. Woolley.	8 Liberty, ditto.

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Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Baguet, C. Potter.
2 Bienfait, ditto.
3 Leewold's, ditto
4 Pyramide d'Egypt, ditto.
5 Tout, ditto.
6 Violet Winner, S. Clark
7 Washington, C. Potter.
8 Unknown, S. Clark.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 La Belle Narene, C. Potter.
2 Grotius, H. Warren.
3 Bienfait, S. Clark.
4 Baguet, C. Potter.
5 Sable Rex, H. Warren.
6 Tout, C. Potter.
7 Lord Vernon, J. Earl.
8 Alexander Magnus, C. Potter.

Feathered Roses.
1 Count de Vergennes, C. Potter.
2 Dolittle, D. Woolley.
3 Walworth, ditto.
4 Lady Crewe, J. Sawyer.
5 Heroine, L. Hussey.
6 Unknown, J. Earl.
7 Comte de Marsan, ditto.
8 Vanquer, T. Clegg.

Flamed Roses.
1 Rose Vesta, J. Earl.
2 Unique, ditto.
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
4 La Vandycken, ditto.
5 Newcastle, ditto
6 Lady Crewe, S. Clark.
7 Regina, T. Clegg.
8 Aglaia, C. Potter.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Unknown, H. Warren.
2 Polyphemus, J. Hardy.
3 Unknown, T. Clegg.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Lord Vernon, H. Warren.
2 Clegg's No. 5, ditto.
3 Gibbons's, J. Earl.

Rose Breeders.
1 Seedling, T. Clegg.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Newcastle, ditto.

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, C. Potter.
2 White Flag, ditto.

LEICESTER FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The second exhibition, for roses, ranunculuses, and pinks, was held on Wednesday, the 27th of June, at the Exchange. Mr. J. F. Wood, of the Coppice, Nottingham, and Mr. Donaldson, gardener to C. B. Robinson, Esq. officiated as judges. Subjoined we give their awards.

ROSES.

Six Blooms.—1. Mr. H. Marris, with Mrs. Elliott, Charles Duval, Devigne, Coup de Hebe, Princess Clementine, and Duchess of Sutherland. 2. Mr. T. Galloway, with Mrs. Elliott, Princess Clementine, Charles Duval, Duchess of Sutherland, Coup de Hebe, and William Jesse. 3. Mr. R. Marris, with Mrs. Elliott, Charles Duval, Princess Clementine, William Jesse, Double-margined Hip, and Smith's Yellow Noisette.

Three Blooms.—Mr. W. Cox, with William Jesse, La Reine, and Double-margined Hip. 2. Mr. H. Marris, with Charles Duval, Double-margined Hip, and Duchess of Sutherland. 3. Mr. T. Galloway, with Charles Duval, Princess Clementine, and Duchess of Sutherland

Three Moss Roses.—Mr. Galloway, with Comtesse de Murianis, Moss Ecclestante, and Provence Moss.

PINKS.

Six Blooms.—1. Mr. R. Marris, with Hodges' Melona, Willmer's Laura, Joseph Sturge, Looker's Minerva, Broom Girl, and Bunkhill's Victoria. 2. Mr. W. Mitchell, no names given in. 3. Mr. Hudson, with Joseph Sturge, Purity, Unknown, Marris's Sir Harry Smith, Parry's Union, and Marris's Lady Jane Grey. 4. Mr. F. W. Hollyoake, With Unknown, Marris's Lady Jane Grey, Cousin's Little Wonder, Harris's King of Purples, Turner's Morning Star, and Mead's Blackheath Rival.

Three Blooms.—1. Mr. G. Evans, with Lilla, Kerr's Harriet, and Hodge's Pluto. 2. Mr. W. Mitchell, no names given in. 3. Mr. R. Marris, with Willmer's Laura, Robin Roughhead, and Beauty of Blackburn. 4. Mr. Hudson, with Marris's Little Nell and Lady Jane Grey, and Unknown. 5. Mr. Hollyoake, with Morning Star, Marris's Sir Harry Smith, and Willmer's Seedling 100.

Purple-laced.
1 Bunkhill's Victoria, Mr. Evans.
2 Hudson's D. of Devonshire, Mr. Cox.
3 Hodge's Pluto, Mr. Evans.
4 Ditto ditto.
5 Bunkhill's Victoria, Mr. Mitchell.
6 Henbrey's Standard, Mr. Cox.
7 Joseph Sturge, Mr. Evans.
8 Little Nell, Mr. R. Marris.

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, Mr. Evans.
2 Melona, Mr. R. Marris.
3 Rosalind, ditto.
4 Hudson's Don John, Mr. Galloway.

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5 Lady Flora Hastings, Mr. Evans.
6 Unknown, Mr. Mitchell.
7 Admiral Codrington, ditto.
8 Kerr's Harriet, Mr. Cox.

Black and White.

1 Lilla, Mr. Evans.
2 Ditto, Mr. Mitchell.
3 Lilla, Mr. Mitchell.
4 Unknown, ditto.
5 Ditto ditto.
6 Lilla, Mr. Evans.
7 Unknown, Mr. Mitchell.
8 Lilla, Mr. Evans.

PINK AND RHUBARB SHOW.

A very creditable show of pinks and other flowers, as also a first-rate rhubarb exhibition, was held at Mr. Wasnidge's, the Crown Inn, Long-row, Nottingham, on the 25th of June. The flowers were beautifully staged, and the blooms of first-rate quality. Of the rhubarb, the heaviest stick weighed 6¼lbs., the longest in solid stalk measured 36½ inches, and the thickest 8 inches in circumference. The following is the award of prizes :—

PINKS.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, Mr. Nix.
1 Duke of Northumberland, ditto.
2 Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Wood.
3 Jones's Huntsman, Mr. Nix.
4 Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Wood.
5 Bunkhill's, Queen, Mr. Wasnidge.

Red-laced.

Premier.—Joseph Sturge, Mr. Wood.
1 Hodges's Gem, Mr. Wasnidge.
2 Susanna, Mr. Nix.
3 Marris's Rosalind, Mr. Wood.
4 Kerr's Harriet, Mr. Nix.
5 Willmer's Laura, Mr. Wood.

Black and White.

Premier—Beauty of Claton, Mr. Wood.
1 Broom Girl, ditto.
2 White Swan, ditto.
3 Kay's Mary, Mr. Wasnidge.
4 Unknown, ditto.
5 Ditto ditto.

ROSES.

First Pan, Mr. Wood. | Second Pan, Mr. Wasnidge.

RHUBARB.

Three heaviest sticks, 19lbs.

1 Mr. Orchards	15½lb. 0oz.	5 Mr. Peach	11¾lb. 0oz.
2 Mr. Sadler	13½lb. 0oz.	6 Mr. Wood	11lb. 5oz.
3 Mr. Bradfield	12lb. 9oz.	7 Mr Willers	10¾lb. 0oz.
4 Mr. Wilde	12¾lb. 0oz.	8 Mr. Ackroyd	8½lb. 0oz.

PINK SHOW,

At the White Lion Inn, Baldock, Herts, July 4.

In the first pan of twelve blooms, gained by Mr. Garratt, the following were fine :—Read's Jenny Lind, Queen of Roses, Young's Double X, Smith's Whipperin and Prince Albert, and Lord Valentia.

The second pan of twelve, which consisted wholly of seedlings, was awarded to Mr. Sharp, of Clophill.

The first pan of six blooms, to Mr. F. Read, for Jenny Lind, three seedlings, Young's Double X. and Lord Valentia. The second six to Mr. Garratt.

The premier prize, in single blooms, was awarded to Mr. F. Read, for a seedling, somewhat in the style of Jenny Lind, with fine rose leaf, but larger and even fuller than that variety.

PINK SHOW,

At the Belle Vue Gardens, near Manchester, July 6.

Purple-laced.

1 Duke, Mr. Moscroft.
2 Greensides, Mr. Knott.
3 Mango, Mr. Etchells.
4 Suarrow, Mr. Knott.
5 Huntsman, Mr. Nutt.
6 Professor, Mr. Knott.
7 Coronation, Mr. Nutt.

Red-laced.

1 Sturge, Mr. Knott.
2 Susanna, ditto.
3 Dreadnought, Mr. Tomlinson.
4 Little Wonder, Mr. Moscroft.
5 Dr. Hepworth, Mr. Beswick.
6 Elizabeth, Mr. Moscroft.
7 Sir William, ditto.

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Black and White.
1 Beauty of Blackburn, Mr. Knott.
2 Miss Jessop, Mr. Nutt.
3 Virgin Queen, Mr. Yates.
4 Margaret, Mr. Moseroft.
5 Overall, Mr. Knott.
6 Kay's Mary, ditto.
7 Beauty of Home, Mr. Etchells.

PINK SHOW,

At the Victoria Gardens, Bury, Lancashire, July 7.

Purple-laced.
1 Mango, Mr. Leigh.
2 Greensides, Mr. Whittaker.
3 Seedling, Mr. Simmonite.
4 Coronation, Mr. Leigh.
5 Black Boy (seedling), Mr. Teebay.
6 Duke, Mr Leigh.
7 Seedling, Mr. Simmonite.
8 Huntsman, Mr. Smith.

Red-laced.
1 Susanna, Mr. Hilton.
2 Sturge, Mr. Simmonite.
3 Dr. Hepworth, Mr. Leigh.
4 Richard Cobden, Mr. Smith.
5 Professor, Mr. Hilton.
6 Criterion, Mr. Leigh.
7 Codrington, Mr. Hilton.
8 Little Wonder, Mr. Whittaker.

Black and White.
1 Beauty of Blackburn, Mr. Knight.
2 Black-eyed Susan, Mr. Norris.
3 Beauty of Claton-le-Moor, Mr. Knight.
4 Kay's Mary, Mr. Guryson.
5 Superior, Mr. Leigh.
6 Seedling, Mr Teebay.
7 Ditto, Mr. Smith.
8 Virgin Queen, Mr. Guryson.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. L. Greaves, Red Lion Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 7.

Purple-laced.
Premier—Taylor's Mango, E. Barker.
1 Jones's Huntsman, W. Griffiths.
2 Taylor's Mango, R. Moorley.
3 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, J. Beech.
4 Bradshaw's Greensides, W. Griffiths.
5 Hand's Pilot, ditto.
6 Faulkner's Perfection, ditto.
7 Tilstone's Richard Cobden, H. Eaton.
8 Lady Antrobus, R. Moorley.
9 Bow's Suarrow, H. Eaton.
10 Seedling, ditto.

Red-laced.
Premier.—Lee's J. Sturge, E. Barker.
1 Ditto, H. Eaton.
2 Moorley's Dorothy, W. Griffiths.
3 Southern's Bonny Bett, ditto
4 Brundret's Sir William, H. Eaton.
5 Hodges's Tom Thumb, W. Griffiths.
6 Queen of the Isles, H. Eaton.
7 Worrall's Victory, W. Griffiths.
8 Jackson's Criterion, H. Eaton.
9 Williams's Thirza, do.
10 Brown's Harry, J. Beech.

Black and White.
Premier.—Seedling Fairy Queen, E. Barker.
1 Kay's Mary, ditto.
2 Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, R. Moorley.
3 Baker's Overall, W. Griffiths.
4 Seedling Fairy Queen, E. Barker.
5 Burgin's Miss Jessop, ditto.
6 Whalley's Beauty of Claton, R. Moorley.
7 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, W. Griffiths.
8 Bradshaw's Margaret, E. Barker.
9 Smith's White Rose, ditto.
10 Parry's Union, W. Griffiths.

Judges.—Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch, near Trentham; and Mr. E. Harding, Stoke-road, near Newcastle.

LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY PINK SHOW,

At the Golden Cock Inn, July 9.

The judges, Mr. J. Smith (Bradford), Mr. P. Radcliff and Mr. J. Bairstow (Leeds), awarded the prizes as follows:—

Premier Bloom.—Cant's Criterion, J. Bramma.
First Pan.—Huntsman, Surplice, Joseph Sturge, Kay's Mary, and Lady Boldhaughton, J. Bailey.
Second Pan.—Greensides, Joseph Sturge, Criterion, Beauty of Blackburn, and Heroine, J. Bramma.
Third Pan.—Huntsman, Bramma's Ruby, Kerr's Harriet, Virgin Queen, and Snowball, W. Chadwick.

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Purple-laced.
1 Huntsman, W Chadwick.
2 Hand's Pilot, J. Bramma.
3 Lady Milner, E. Mitchell.
4 Greensides, J. Bramma.
5 Gatliff's Pilgrim, W. Grey.
6 Seedling, W. Chadwick.

Brown-laced.
1 Lady Milner, E. Mitchell.
2 Parker's Diana, W. Grey.
3 Masterpiece, J Bramma.
4 Surplice, I. Bailey.
5 Ruby, W Chadwick.
6 Mrs. Brandling, I. Fryer.

Red-laced.
1 Criterion, J. Bramma.
2 Joseph Sturge, I. Bailey.
3 Marris's Little Nell, J Bramma.
4 Richard Cobden, J Bailey.
5 Etches's Susanna, W. Grey.
6 Willmer's Laura, ditto.

Dark-eyed.
1 Beauty of Blackburn, J. Bramma.
2 Black-eyed Susan, ditto.
3 Miss Jessop, ditto.
4 Lady Boldhaughton, R. White.
5 Heroine, J. Bramma.
6 Virgin Queen, W. Chadwick.

Red-eyed.
1 Kay's Mary, I. Bailey.
2 Heroine, J. Bramma.
3 Hodges's Gem, I Fryer.
4 Kirtland's Gaylad, J. Bramma.
5 Seedling, ditto.
6 Parry's Union, E. Mitchell.

CHORLEY PINK SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION,

Open to all England, at the Royal Oak Inn, July 12. Fifteen subscribers.

Best of any Colour.—Thunderer (purple-laced seedling), R. Teebay, Preston.
Maiden Prize.—Mango, Mr. Fairbrother, Boulton.

Black and White.
1 Beauty of Claton, E. Knight, Walton.
2 Beauty of Blackburn, ditto.
3 Mrs. Josh. Ridgway, C. Howarth, Esq.
4 Black-eyed Susan, R. Teebay.
5 Lady Boldhaughton, ditto.
6 Seedling, R. Teebay.
7 Kay's Mary, C. Howarth, Esq.
8 Seedling, Mr. Turner, Boulton.

Purple-laced.
1 Thunderer (seedling), R. Teebay.
2 Duke of St. Albans, ditto.
3 Mango, R. Teebay.
4 Seedling, ditto.
5 Magnificent, Mr. Turner.
6 Greensides, R. Teebay.
7 Huntsman, ditto.
8 Coronation, ditto.

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, R. Teebay.
2 Criterion, Mr. Turner.
3 Susanna, R. Teebay.
4 Mrs. E. Dawning, C. Howarth, Esq.
5 Dreadnought, R. Teebay.
6 Seedling ditto.
7 Little Wonder, Mr. Turner.
8 Dr. Hepworth, ditto.

Judges.—Mr. Wm. Wilkinson, Blackburn; and Mr. Leigh, Bagslate, near Rochdale.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mrs. Beech, the Robin Hood, Bolton-le-Moor, July 14.

First Pan (one in each class).—Duke of St. Albans, Jenny Lind (B.W. seedling), and Sir William, J. Morris.
Second Pan.—Duke of St. Albans, Kay's Mary, and Joseph Sturge, J. Yates.

Black and White.
1 Virgin Queen, J. Turner.
2 Unknown, J. Gray.
3 Lady Boldhaughton, ditto.
4 Beauty of Claton, J. Turner.
5 Kay's Mary, J. Yates.
6 Grace Darling, R. Yates.
7 Nulli Secundus, J Yates.
8 Southern's Standard, J. Morris.

Purple-laced.
1 Duke of St Albans, J. Turner.
2 Greensides, J. Gray.
3 Beauty of Rochdale, T. Ashton.
4 Suarrow, I. Lomas.
5 Competitor, J. Gray.
6 Magnificent, J. Turner.
7 Huntsman, J. Morris.
8 Mango, J. Turner.

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, R Yates.
2 Susanna, J. Turner.
3 Louis Tasso, I. Lomas.
4 Criterion, J. Turner.
5 Dr. Hepworth, J. Yates.
6 Brundret's Rachael, J. Morris.
7 Mars, J. Gray.
8 Stranger, ditto.

Judges.—Messrs. J. Boidel and J. Ratcliffe, Leigh; and Mr. J. Arrowsmith, Bolton.

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PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Thomas Edwards, Lamb and Flag Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 14.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, W. Griffiths.
1 Ditto ditto.
2 Hand's Pilot, H. Eaton.
3 Bradshaw's Greensides, E. Barker.
4 Taylor's Mango, ditto.
5 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, D. Brown
6 Taylor's Solon, ditto.
7 Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, E. Barker.
8 Seedling, ditto
9 Tilstone's Richd. Cobden, H. Eaton.
10 Faulkner's Perfection, W. Griffiths.

Red-laced.

Premier.—Lee's J. Sturge, E. Barker.
1 Ditto ditto.
2 Williams's Thirza, ditto.
3 Mead's Susanna, D. Brown.
4 Moorley's Dorothy, W. Griffiths.
5 Seedling, R. Moorley.
6 Lightbody's Louis Tasso, E. Barker.
7 Trickett's Adam Smith, ditto.
8 Sothern's Bonny Bett, W. Griffith
9 Worrall's Victory, ditto.
10 Brundret's Sir William, D. Brown.

Black and White.

Premier.—Whalley's Beauty of Claton, E. Barker.
1 Seedling Fairy Queen, ditto.
2 Kay's Mary, ditto.
3 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, W. Griffiths.
4 Bradshaw's Margaret, E. Barker.
5 Seedling, D. Brown.
6 Taylor's Mrs. Frost, E. Barker.
7 Millman's Lillia, ditto.
8 Seedling, D. Brown.
9 Parry's Union, R. Moorley.
10 Seedling, H. Eaton.

Judges.—Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch; and Mr. E. Harding, Stoke-road.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Samuel Bromley, the Gardeners' Tavern, Common, Macclesfield, July 14.

Premier Prize.—Huntsman, Susanna, Virgin Queen, S. Bromley.

First Class.

1 Suarrow, J. Hambleton.
2 Greensides, J. Shone.
3 Suarrow, J. Hambleton.
4 Cheshire Hero, J. Shone.
5 Huntsman, S. Bromley.
6 Emperor, J. Shone.
7 Mango, ditto.

Second Class.

1 Sturge, J. Shone.
2 Adam Smith, J. Hambleton.
3 Pearson's Professor, ditto.
4 Sturge, J. Hambleton.
5 Eliza, J. Shone.
6 Susanna, S. Bromley.
7 Brundret's Sir William, J. Hambleton

Third Class.

1 Kay's Mary, S. Bromley.
2 Lady Boldhaughton, ditto.
3 Virgin Queen, J. Hambleton.
4 Kay's Mary, S. Bromley.
5 Snowdrop, J. Shone.
6 Beauty of Claton, ditto.
7 Parry's Union, ditto.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. Grundy's, Spread Eagle Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.

First Pan.—Mango, Susanna, and Kay's Kary, J. Knott.
Second Pan—Mango, Sturge, and Kay's Mary, J. Knott.
Third Pan.—Greensides, Sturge, and Mary, Whittaker.

Purple-laced.

1 Greensides, P. Moss.
2 Duke of St. Albans, ditto.
3 Mango, Whittaker.
4 Huntsman, ditto.
5 Albion, J. Knott.
6 Freeman, R. Whittaker.
7 Suarrow, J Knott.
8 Beauty of Rochdale, J. Moss.

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, I. Wild.
2 Susanna, J. Moss.
3 Dreadnought, ditto.
4 Elizabeth, J. Knott
5 Sir William, P. Moss.
6 Dr. Hepworth, R. Whittaker.
7 Little Wonder, J. Knott.
8 Rachael, R. Whittaker.

Black and White.

1 Kay's Mary, J. Knott.
2 Lady Boldhaugton, Whittaker.
3 Virgin Queen, J. Knott.
4 Snowball, J Wild.
5 Union, J. Moss.
6 White Rose, J. Knott.
7 Citizen, R. Whittaker.
8 Miss Jessop, J. Moss.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSES.

BY H. S. M.

I HAVE been greatly pleased, and many of your readers, I doubt not, likewise, with the papers on the cultivation of roses, by Messrs. Beck and Allestree; and I am now desirous of adding my mite to the general stock of information. I shall confine myself, in this paper, to those roses termed *Hybrid Perpetuals*, which are at this period (October 1st) blooming very luxuriantly in my garden. Most growers know that especial old favourite, Madame Laffay, and where is there one, take it in all its points, its equal? One after another of the new varieties have I added to my collection, and still its beauty and constancy makes it *sanspareil*. You have noticed some of those most known, in previous numbers. I shall now remark on those that are either very good or comparatively new.

Comte de Montalivet is really very beautiful, but then, after all, it is a *loose rose*. The petals are large and well formed, and the colour like a stock, a sort of intermediate shade between crimson and purple; but then, what? why it wants the compact form of our old favourite, just alluded to.

Cymedor is better formed, more double, and I should say, from the comparison I have been enabled to make, much the better rose. It is a splendid colour, somewhat like the preceding, and will assuredly be a favourite.

General Negrier I have seen most beautiful this season. In form it is really first rate, and though the colour is somewhat common, still its delicacy will be highly appreciated.

Now for a large rose, and a really handsome one too.

Madame Guillot must certainly be seen to be appreciated. The colour is deep rosy blush, approaching carmine, form above the average, blooms very freely, altogether a great addition to this class of autumnal varieties.

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But, perhaps, what gave me most pleasure, not unmingled with disappointment, was

Geant des Battailles.—I know I am treading on rather dangerous ground, to say one word against a sort so universally bepraised; but it must not always be expected to come in first-rate character, for I have certainly had it otherwise this season. The foliage of the plant is very bold and striking, a point of some importance; and as its first blooms were on the point of expansion, I think I never saw a rose that pleased me so much. I was at some trouble to protect the flowers, and on their expansion, I certainly felt disappointed. These were the first blooms. Later in the autumn it redeemed its character, and I had some superb scarlet, deep, rich, and glossy blooms of this really fine rose.

Jeanne d'Arc.—With this flower, I shall not despair of a white hybrid perpetual; it is a very near approach, and when in juxtaposition with the rose immediately before it, its contrast and beauty is more apparent. Jeanne certainly is not white, but it is a most beautiful and interesting variety.

Then what a very brilliant rose is

Standard of Marengo.—This I have not grown, but I find the following memorandum in my note-book:—"Extra-fine form, double, petals cupping, bright crimson, mixed with a vivid scarlet tint." Twice I have seen it, both in its early stage of flowering and at a later period, and I feel confident, that whoever grows it, will find it a splendid flower.

Chateaubriand I did not like, though new, still I thought several of the light varieties (Duchess of Sutherland, &c. &c.) were decided beats on it, and therefore, carrying them in my eye, I could not, neither did I, look very favourably on it.

These I think are the most striking of any I have either grown or seen in other quarters, this season; but I cannot conclude without noticing a few which, though, comparatively speaking, they are old, it will take much beauty, form, fragrance, &c. in the new varieties, to supplant. They are,

Baronne Prevost.—Rose.
Comtesse du Chatel.—Fine deep pink.
Jaques Lafitte.—Splendid deep rose.
William Jesse.—Shaded deep rose.
Duchess of Sutherland.—Delicate rose.
Aubernon.—Deep crimson.

And last, though not least worthy,

Madame Laffay, which ought to be grown in every garden in the empire, large or small.

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DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Everard (Bowler).—Second-row bizarre. The ground fine clear yellow, markings red flame and feather, the beam delicate, the cup well formed, but does not expand sufficiently until the bloom has turned the meridian, which, to me, is a great drawback. The scarcity, perhaps, demands £10 10s.

Naxara (Groom).—Second-row byblœmen, of a black and deep feather. 21s.

Duke of Cambridge (Groom).—Third-row bizarre. This is a fine thing, the ground a good yellow, markings in the way of Everard, but better developed, and the colour, instead of a decided red, is brilliant red ochre; the cup good. £10 10s.

Dante (Strong).—A decent first-row byblœmen, when well done, but inconstant.

Spagnoletti (Davidson).—Second or third-row bizarre, of the Devonshire character, into colour three years since, and this the first season of an offset, and that very, very small.

La Sublime.—A rich-coloured second-row rose. When well bloomed, good flame and feather. 7s. 6d.

Partizan.—A good second-row bizarre, of the Poly. character.

La Dame (Lawrence).—Second-row rose. Flame and feather good. 15s.

Prince of Wales.—Noticed at page 308, vol. 2, as a gem. True bright rich chrome yellow, marked with a very broad beam of brilliant red, a little flamed, and partially feathered, shape and size good. For a first or second-row flower it is very effective. The Rev. S. Creswell evidently saw a maiden bloom. The price now, £5 5s.

Lady Peel (Groom).—Fourth-row rose. Large well-formed cup, carmine feather and flame. £5 5s.

Queen of Hearts (Lyde*).—A distinctive second or third-row bizarre, flame and feather; a very striking good bed flower. £3 3s.

Miss Porter.—I believe this to be one of Lyde's. It is a good third-row byblœmen, of a pucy marone-coloured flame and feather. £1 1s.

Duke of Sutherland (Groom).—Rich yellow, dark brown flame, and black feathering. (See vol. 2, page 308.) £3 3s.

Grand Duke Alexander (Groom).—Fourth-row bizarre, flamed brown, with sharp distinct lines in the feathering, ground lemon colour. £1 1s.

* The late Mr. Lyde broke many very good things. At his death, I am informed, the whole collection passed into the hands of Mr. Lawrence. I mention this that amateurs may know where to apply for flowers broken by Lyde. It is my intention to report on some of Lyde's flowers.

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Now that the planting time is approaching, I will offer an idea to those who would like to try it; that is not to use sand, but charcoal made from porous wood. I intend to adopt it, knowing it to be good. The bulbs take up fine, and the bloom, both ground and marking, is extra fine and clear.

ON PINKS AND THEIR PROPERTIES.

BY G.

THE pink fanciers are greatly obliged to Mr. Slater and Mr. Lightbody, for their articles on pinks. I had been deprived of my pinks, by thieves, during the blooming season of 1847, and in 1848 I was absent, and scarcely saw a dozen pinks that year. In the autumn, however, or in the winter, I read over Mr. Lightbody's paper very attentively. I had never seen so clear a description before. It was exactly what I wanted. I procured some of the sorts he named, especially Gaylad, which, he said, produced abundance of pollen. I found Mr. L. correct in every particular. Mr. Slater's account of Read's Jenny Lind was very inviting, and equally true. Mr. Slater, in 1848, stood forth as the advocate of rose-leaved pinks; but in your number for October, 1849, he says, the petals *should have serrated edges* (p. 296). It is true, he corrects himself immediately; but I was sorry to see any "lapsus" on so important a point, and from so good a judge. In describing Kerr's Harriet, he says, "petals good." Now this is a description that would have deceived me; for, by a good petal, I understand a smooth petal, and, to my mind, no pink can have a *good* petal, if it be serrated. This fringed or serrated petal seems to me the great fault in Kerr's Harriet. There is also one thing omitted in describing Young's XX, viz. that this flower produces a fair quantum of pollen. As to the edging, my sympathies are with Mr. Slater, and I

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never did like to see a pink with a white beard. I think one of the old pinks, Brundritt's Sir William, which Mr. S. alludes to in a former paper, is right in this respect, carrying the lace strictly on the edge. Jones's Huntsman, a striking flower, seems to be complained of by florists as loose in the pod, and it has been exhibited lately with an artificial pod. Dreadnought was well described by Mr. Slater as a good old pink. I have always been very fond of it, and probably some of the more modern varieties may have originated from it. Jones's Huntsman, Marris's Little Nell, and Rose Elegans, all seem to have a look of Dreadnought. The seedlings from it sport very much; but probably it ought to be impregnated, and its own pollen applied elsewhere. I succeeded, last season, in impregnating this pink, also Kerr's Harriet, Read's Jenny Lind, Hand's Pilot, Duke of Northumberland, Jones's Huntsman, and Marris's Little Nell; but I failed with Smith's Diana, Young's XX, and Barratt's Conqueror. Beauty of Blackburn I think a pretty rose-leaf self. From this I procured seed by impregnation; and its pollen assisted me to impregnate other sorts. Kerr's Harriet produces seed naturally, but the pods are small; the impregnated blooms produced much larger seed pods.

I think prizes should be given for rose-leaved pinks—in this way, perhaps—that some well-known pink shall be selected for a standard, and that no pink that is not equal in smoothness of petal to the standard, shall be allowed to show in the rose-leaved class. The standards might be carefully potted for the purpose, in the autumn, if thought needful, and removed into the show-room. The opposition that might arise to such a proposal, would be merely of a selfish nature, arising from parties who had inferior sorts to dispose of or exhibit. Possibly a prize for red-laced seedlings, might be of service; they seem scarce; most of the flowers exhibited as red-laced, are in reality purple.

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HARDY SHRUBS, SUITABLE FOR GARDENS, SHRUBBERIES, ETC.

BY THE EDITOR.

We have been often asked to give the names of a few plants calculated to take a front place in a shrubbery, or for ornament in a small garden. We had delayed it because it would be more appropriate at this season of the year, when transplanting may be safely effected. We trust our friends who have lately applied to us, will find their several wants, as far as information goes, supplied. In that very ornamental class the Ribes or Flowering Currants, we have nothing particularly new. The double variety of *R. sanguinea* has caused much disappointment; many deeming it as great a humbug as the Aberdeen Beehive Strawberry. We are inclined to think that in parts of the country more congenial to its habits, it will be esteemed. For simplicity, beauty, and profuseness of flowering, the *R. albidum*, *sanguinea*, and *aurea* (the White, Crimson, and Golden Yellow, as their scientific name implies), are amongst the most beautiful early shrubs that we possess, and no garden of the least pretension ought to be without them. There are both darker and lighter shades of the scarlet varieties; in fact, if any one chooses to sow the seed, which is produced in great profusion, much variety may be obtained.

The Brooms (Spartium, or, according to some botanists, Cytisus) are very ornamental. There is a variety of the common broom, the branches and foliage of which are striped with yellow, and the flowers are large and as brilliant as the gorse; but at all seasons of the year, and particularly in the winter, when contrast is so much needed, the *Gold-striped Broom* is really a very beautiful and graceful plant. As a companion to the above, the *Pale-flowering Broom* is deserving of notice. Strong in

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growth, bearing multitudes of pale blossoms, large in size, and continuing long in flower, it is highly ornamental. The *Pink*, or *Persian Broom*, which we have before noticed, is also a most beautiful shrub. A bush, six feet high, will produce myriads of flowers, the exterior of which is pink, and as they open they become white, and form a beautiful contrast of white and pink. It is one of those plants concerning which there are not two opinions.

Closely related to the above, are the *Double-blossomed Gorse* or *Furze*, a splendid plant, the flowers of which are richly scented; and the *Dwarf Genista*, also with double yellow flowers; but this last does not attain a height of more than twelve or eighteen inches. For rock-work, or the front part of a flower border, or to group with phloxes, larkspurs, and plants of similar habit, it is first-rate. All the plants we have enumerated under the head of Cytisus, or Genista, will graft well on the laburnum; and on clean straight stems of the Red-flowered, or Cytisus Adamii, they make beautiful lawn plants. The Double Gorse has grown for a year or two on the laburnum, but the stock does not seem to suit it. We think it very possible, that if seedling plants of the common furze were allowed to stand on the seed bed, they would draw each other up, and in time form straight clean stems, which would make good stocks; and not only might the Double Gorse be grafted on them, but also the Dwarf Gorse, which is weak and straggling in its growth; and in either case they would make interesting lawn trees.

We must now briefly allude to the Arbutus, known in some parts as the Strawberry tree. In the south of England and Devonshire, these splendid evergreen shrubs may be seen in all their beauty; but in this part of the world, they do not, except in favourable seasons, bear fruit. There are many varieties from seed, but all are good, and where possible, ought to be grown. The shining dark green foliage, and beautiful

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waxlike clusters of flowers, produced in autumn and early spring, renders this shrub peculiarly attractive. The scarlet-flowering variety is really one of the brightest gems amongst evergreens that we know of. Then there is the double-flowering, with similar habit to the preceding. Its flowers, however, are mere curiosities, being by no means so handsome as the single-flowered varieties. *Arbutus Millerii* was raised, we believe, near Bristol, and has larger foliage and a more robust habit than the preceding. The flowers are pink, and are very beautiful. *Arbutus heterophylla* (The Various-leaved Strawberry Tree) is more dwarf and compact in its habit than the preceding, flowers most profusely, and is a very elegant evergreen. All these have flowered with us, but that striking variety *Arbutus magnifica* has not yet done so. Its leaves are of great substance, large, and comparatively smooth at the edges. Should it prove hardy enough for so northern a locality as ours, it will be one of the best evergreens we grow.

[To be continued.]

SCHOOL GARDENS AND THEIR TENDENCIES.

BY THE EDITOR.

We have often heard how desirable it is "to teach the young idea how to shoot;" and of this we are certain, that as a tree may be induced, by pruning and judicious culture, to take a certain direction, so may the mind, when in its most susceptible state, be impressed with those ideas and tendencies which will have a most powerful influence on the well-being of the parties, as they pass through the various phases of after-life. Last year, we noticed the gardens connected with the High-pavement chapel, Nottingham, and we are glad to know that our remarks obtained

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extensive publicity, through the medium of the press, simply, we presume, because our contemporaries well knew that by the adoption of the system described, and then advocated, inconceivable good would be the result. Since that period, considerable improvement has taken place; and as the period of festivity and kindly feeling, so endeared to our boyish recollections, is fast drawing on, we now make the appeal in good time, that others may have the opportunity and we trust the inclination, to "go and do likewise."

We had the happiness, last Christmas (and indeed we spent a happy evening) to mingle with a party of some two or three hundred, who assembled for the express purpose of helping and contributing to the funds to aid the youthful cultivators in the erection of a greenhouse, to be held in common, as their plants would have a better chance of success in a building of this description. The kind-hearted and benevolent friends who were the originators, and who so successfully carried out their plans, we need not mention here, simply because we feel assured that no publicity would increase the gratification that a conscious feeling of doing good imparts. We now come to our narrative. A greenhouse was a desideratum, as an encouragement to the boys, and from their good conduct and industry, this was not wanting.

A bazaar was opened in the upper school-room, where were formed three large Christmas trees, reaching to the ceiling; they were brilliantly illuminated, and their branches hung with every conceivable article likely to meet the wants or excite the admiration of the visiters. Drawings, paintings, books, &c. were added by various contributors, and the sale of the evening, in this society alone, amounted, we believe, to upwards of thirty pounds. The greenhouse has been built, and during the summer we went, with our friend, Mr. Walker, of Mansfield, to inspect it, and to award the prizes to the various holders of the allotments. The garden truly was well kept, the crops most abundant, and the potatoes, onions, goose-

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berries, currants, &c. first-rate. The flowers, particularly balsams, which were beautifully grown (not great straggling plants, with here and there a flower, but compact spikes, like Brompton stocks), were large and double. The annuals were select, and well grown; indeed our inspection was one continued round of approval. The day was wet; but what of that? When people have warm hearts they *don't feel the damp;* and the garden was crowded on the two days it was open for inspection, by those who had a lively and unmistakable interest in the boys' welfare. Now what is to be gathered from this? We hold the opinion, and we are not alone, that similar means ought to be adopted in every town in the kingdom, by every parish, by every denomination of professors (who, by the by, would thus evince that they not only *professed,* but *possessed* the milk of human kindness), for the good of those formed by the same Creator, though perhaps moving in a more humble sphere, but nevertheless part and parcel of the great human family, and whose "weal or woe" is intimately blended with those above them.

It is indeed a sad thing for the poor and friendless to think that *no one cares for them.* How much of the desperation, wickedness, and crime of every-day life results from the truthfulness of this thought in the outcast's breast. Who cares for me? is the question that passes with electric force through the breast of the neglected and poverty-stricken; and as quickly comes, with its blasting influence, the response, *No one!* But give our youthful population education and employment, carry out on an extended scale the example so well begun and so happily and successfully carried forward by the members of the High-pavement chapel, then will we pledge ourselves that the happiness which industry, accompanied with intellectuality and knowledge, ensures, will speedily bring peace, with plenty in its train; and our country become what we believe in truth it will be, the *example* as well as the *home of the world.*

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EXPERIMENTS ON FLOUR-BALL POTATOES.

BY G.

In the spring of 1848, I planted a few Flour-balls, on the poorest and driest spot I could find, on a steep sunny slope, where the subsoil was a mere stony riddle. I had some rich compost added to the starved poor stuff on the place, and dug up a fine crop in January, 1849, having earthed over the potatoes, in September, instead of lifting them. In January, I selected a few of the very best tubers, added fresh compost, and replanted them on the same spot, a yard apart, covering them with old hot-bed manure. These potatoes all came up well and early, and grew vigorously. I took them up in September, they were all sound, and averaged *fifty* at a root—many small, none very large. I will call this lot No. 1.

No. 2, planted about the same time, in better soil, on the same slope, without manure, but well covered with a good quantity of wood-ashes, yielded thirty to a root, about the same size as No. 1, all sound. This lot would probably have done better, had it not been planted near to, though on the south side of a six-foot hawthorn hedge.

No. 3, 4, 5, were purposely set in the worst situation I could give them, on a clay subsoil, not too well drained, where the morning sun was partially intercepted. No. 3, without manure, half missed; the others had a dozen middling potatoes at each root. No. 4, manured with a compost of salt, soot, leaves, manure, and road scrapings, which had been turned occasionally for twelve months, produced sixteen, and No. 5, with pig manure, twenty-five at each root. These latter were the best potatoes, and would weigh as much as the fifty of No. 1.

Nos. 1 and 2 were under my own eye. I saw them planted, weeded, &c. The other lots I was not able to attend to, and they were greatly injured by

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weeds, &c. I have no doubt that wide planting is the best, and it should seem that if No. 1 had been treated with pig manure, that would have been the best every way. The dry weather in May, when we had cold east winds, might be all in favour of manure. In 1848, however, my potatoes in wood-ashes only, were the soundest and best.

The Flour-ball, though prolific, is not liked at my table. The inside is hard, although outside it will be floury enough; and if boiled until the core is tender, then it is quite sad. Potatoes on light dry soils, near me, were generally injured by the drought in spring.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

MACFARLINE'S NORTHUMBRIAN FILLBASKET RASPBERRY.—This is a seedling raised by Mr. Macfarline, of Alnwick. A fine dish of it was exhibited here, and highly commended as being excellent in flavour and large in size. It has been named the *Northumbrian Fillbasket*," and being a strong and vigorous grower, is well worthy of the attention of the lovers of Pomona.—W. HARRISON, *Felton*.

GOOSEBERRIES.—At one of the principal shows in Lancashire, held at the Falstaff Inn, Manchester, August 4, 1849, a very beautiful yellow seedling was exhibited, by Mr. I. Leicester. It was named *Hue and Cry*, and is thought to be a cross between Broom Girl and Marygold; it has broad veins, and is rather

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rough. At the same time and place, Mr. Oldfield's white was exhibited. It is named *Antagonist,* and is like Ostrich in colour, but with the veins darker. It is a fine rough berry, very like London in form, and is thought highly of. Hue and Cry is let out this season, Antagonist not till 1850. *Lord Rancliffe* (yellow), raised by Mr. Ellis, of Radford, near Nottingham, is the second heaviest of its class. It is not only a large and good flavoured fruit, but remarkably handsome.

FLOWERS.

NEW SEEDLING RED RANUNCULUS.—I beg to recommend to the notice of the readers of the *Midland Florist,* Craiggy's new seedling red ranunculus, *Rose of Calder.*" It is a very fine self, beautifully crowned, the petals nicely arranged, and the colour same as that much admired rose, Daphne. It cannot fail to be considered an acquisition to this class of flowers, good selfs being so very difficult to obtain.—W. HARRISON, *Felton.*

THOMPSON'S LADY ELIZABETH GREY.—This is a beautiful white-ground tipped dahlia, raised by James Thompson, Esq. Morpeth. It has been shown at nearly all the Northumbrian exhibitions, this season, in fine character; and we understand that it beat all the tips at the show in the Music Hall, Newcastle. It was thus noticed by the editor of the *Newcastle Guardian,* of the 7th of September:—"A tipped flower, raised by James Thompson, Esq. of Morpeth, won the first prize, and was considered by the best judges to be a flower of first-class character."—W. HARRISON, *Felton.*

OLIVER'S GOLDEN DROP.—This is a grand yellow dahlia, raised by Mr. Oliver, gardener to the Hon. H. T. Liddell, of Eslington, near Alnwick. It is

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certainly a splendid yellow, and considered by many to be a decided beat upon the Yellow Standard. For my part, I have seen no yellow so good this season, as the seven blooms of it which Mr. Oliver exhibited at the Whittingham show. The blooms which Mr. Oliver sent to the Newcastle exhibition, were thus noticed in the *Guardian*:—"A yellow seedling, raised by Mr. Oliver, was also exhibited, and was considered quite *first-rate*.—WM. HARRISON, *Felton*.

First-class certificates were awarded to the following dahlias, at the Birmingham open show, on the 26th of September:—

Keyne's Magnificent.—This was very fine, and the best seedling exhibited; colour stated by some as rosy lilac, intermediate pink and purple.

Turner's Mrs. Seldon.—Splendid yellow, large, well formed, and constant.

Proctor's Elizabeth.—Lilac, edged with purple, beautiful and distinct.

Bragg's Lady Grenville.—Fancy.

J. SLATER.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

AMONGST fancy geraniums, perhaps *Henderson's Alboni* is one of the best. The flowers individually are larger than the majority of this class. The upper petals purple, margined with pink; the under petals rose-coloured. It flowers most profusely, and will, doubtless, be a great favourite.

WINTONIA (Sheppard).—We learn from the gentleman who has raised this very pretty fancy geranium, that it has been honoured by the patronage of the King of the Belgians, who has ordered it, as well as Mr. Sheppard's other seedlings. It will, if allowed, remain in bloom throughout the year. The upper petals are a beautiful rosy pink, with a white margin; the lower, white, slightly tinged with purple; and a small blotch on each petal.

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An esteemed friend and good judge has sent us the following description of some new cinerarias. He says that he saw few better grown than at Mr. E. G. Henderson's, Wellington Nursery, St. John's Wood. Amongst hundreds, he states

Pauline to be one of the best, the shape and texture being first-rate. The colour is deep purple crimson, or violet crimson, so fine and striking, yet hard to be defined.

Flora Mac Ivor.—A splendid variety, dense in its growth, forming large and close heads of crimson. Though there were many seedlings of similar colour, this was pre-eminent.

Adela Villiers was past its best, but enough remained to convince him that this would become an established favourite. Crimson, with white centre. The flowers, individually, were of large size, and extra fine form.

Our friend also tells us that in fancy geraniums, so much in vogue at the present time, few are better than a variety named *Ambrose's Defiance.* The blooms are round, with white centre and belting, the ground colour being a fine bronzy purple. He describes it as of first-rate character, and one of the best of its class.

HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS.

We are always most happy to receive anything new and handsome in hardy trees and shrubs, as they can be enjoyed by a greater number of people than more tender plants.

Perhaps one of the most beautifully striking trees we have lately seen specimens of, is a *Weeping Variegated Elm,* the marking of which is distinct and beautiful; and what is most singular, the stronger it is grown, the more beautiful and decided the variegation. It was found amongst some seedlings, in the nursery of Messrs. Pontey, of Huddersfield, Yorkshire, and will be highly prized by every lover of new and distinct plants.

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From the same place, we have the *Cratægus prunifolia variegata.* This, from the specimen sent, will be found a most beautiful and desirable plant. And not one step behind it will be Mr. F. Fox's new *Cratægus oxycantha marginata,* or *Silver-edged Hawthorn.* The plant is now two years old, and every leaf, both last season and this, has been broadly and distinctly margined with white. It is no *sickly, dead-alive sport,* but as correctly and decidedly edged as our variegated hollies, and appears as constant as they.

Now we are on the subject of variegated plants, *Vitis heterophylla,* a sort of Virginian creeper, with mottled foliage, has been very pretty and interesting, in our nursery, this season. When sufficiently strong to cover walls, pillars, or lattice-work, we have no doubt it will be much in request.

We well know that many of our readers expect somewhat more of us than descriptions of florists' flowers—a new fruit, shrub, or perennial, being more in their way. Now we have a little plant in our garden, which, should it prove hardy, will be invaluable. It belongs apparently, or has close affinity to the Portugal laurel, being much like that well known evergreen, only that its leaves are like the common holly. Its scientific name is *Cerasus illicifolia,* and if able to stand our winters, it will be a welcome addition to plants of this description.

HARDY PERENNIAL PLANTS.

SWAINSONIA GREYANA.—This is a hardy perennial. It attains a height of nearly five feet, and is, therefore, well adapted for the centre of beds, or the back row in borders. The spikes of flowers are from two to three feet in length, light purple, each flower having a distinct white centre; a very beautiful and

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showy plant. It was raised from Australian seeds, and in the south of England has proved itself quite hardy; but as a pot plant, for the greenhouse, it is excellent, being in bloom the greater part of the year.

LILIUM PUNCTATUM, OR LANCIFOLIUM RUBRUM.—This most splendid lily has bloomed with us in the open ground. We cut a spike af flowers on the 3rd of October. The bulb was planted out about three years ago, and it has not had the slightest protection during the winter seasons. Having now tested its capability of enduring the winter of the midland counties, we trust that our readers will be induced to plant it in the open border.

Most of the pentstemons are very handsome, and as two excellent and really beautiful varieties, we may mention,

P. Skinnerii.—Of compact and rather humble growth, the flowers are produced in profusion, fine crimson, the interior of the tube being white.

P. Formosus.—The flowers of this approach to scarlet, shaded with darker colours; a very interesting plant indeed.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

PICOTEES.

IF our readers recollect what we said, some time ago, relative to Marris's Victoria Regina, a heavy-edged rose picotee, which has proved itself a splendid flower, and is acknowledged by an eminent metropolitan cultivator to be one of the best out, they will be glad to hear that Mr. Marris has raised another, which he calls Grace Darling; and though, as he observes, the name is rather hackneyed, still he was anxious, with one of his best seedlings, to commemorate a female so renowned for her heroism.

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Grace Darling will prove an excellent companion for the sort previously named. It was raised from that very delicately-edged variety, Lady Alice Peel, but is itself remarkable for the steadiness and regularity of its beautiful heavy edge; the pod is long, and the petals broad and well formed; the flower *dresses* particularly well.

Marris's Countess Howe is a very splendid light rose, also raised from Lady Alice Peel; the petals are very broad, and the white pure. This is the variety which will dispute the palm with that very successful flower, Mrs. Barnard.

Matchless (Slater).—Raised from Nulli Secundii, and extremely like the parent in point of form and marking; it is, however, red, instead of purple. The flower sent was small, but Mr. Slater, at an after period, informed us that it was a side bloom, but that a crown bloom makes a splendid flower. This we have no doubt of.

Achilles (Marris) is also of the same class as the above. The white is particularly good, the edge dark red, and the pod and petals first-rate.

Elizabeth (Robinson).—This has been raised in the vicinity of Nottingham, and is a heavy-edged bright crimson; the white pure, the margin well defined, and a remarkably brilliant flower.

Harriet (Moore).—Heavy-edged rose, the guard petals very broad, the edging well laid on, and the flower clean; a very promising variety.

Miss Rushin (Hollyoak).—Very promising rose flake: the petals are stout and extremely well ribboned, the colour deep and attractive, and the centre well filled with petals of good form.

Mary Anne (Robinson).—This appears to be a favourite name with our floricultural friends. The variety is very delicately margined with crimson, without speck or bar, each petal appearing to be surrounded with a dark thread. It will bear comparison with Youell's Gem, and others of the same class.

Mary Anne (Parkinson).—A heavy-edged red, of peculiar character, unlike anything else that we know off. It has got into the hands of those who will bring it out even in better style than we saw it. It was small; but we were treated with a *lateral*. In future, we shall not know this, but report as we receive them. It is no interest to us to give a flower a good or bad character; but most assuredly we always feel the latter an unpleasant duty.

PANSIES.

Abd el Kader (Davidson).—This is a very promising Scotch seedling. Form good, and the texture of the petals like velvet; the colour dark plum, of a beautiful shade. It is a far better self than nine-tenths of those we have bloomed this season, from that part of the world.

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Hyder Ali, by the same raiser, was small, but of exquisite form. It is also a dark self. We did not like the centre of this flower so well as the preceding; it appeared out of condition, and therefore we have hopes of it.

GERANIUM.

Tetotaller (Walmsley).—A remarkably round flower, and of much substance; a long step in the right direction. The top petals are nearly covered with dark marone, shading to crimson, with a distinct and narrow margin of rose. The lower petals are very broad and well formed, bright pink, slightly veined with crimson.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ON YELLOW PICOTEES,

FLOWERED DURING THE PAST SEASON.

BY THE EDITOR.

Le Roi.—Rather a small flower, good pod, pale yellow ground, strongly marked with lively red.

William the Conqueror.—A very full flower, with good petals, ground colour yellow, heavily edged with deep purple. The late flowers are more clear than the early ones.

William Catleugh.—The ground colour deep yellow, heavily margined with chocolate and crimson; a very attractive sort.

Tom Pethus.—Rather small, the yellow indistinctly patched with white, margined with dark red; though small, rather a coarse flower, being somewhat serrated on the edge.

Cloth of Gold.—The pod is long, the yellow good, margined very neatly with dark red. This is one of the cleanest and most decided in character, its drawback is a slight serrature.

Duchess of Normandy.—The yellow pale and undecided, lightly edged with purple, distinct.

Transcendent.—Bright yellow ground petals, margined with light scarlet, and slightly serrated; a very pretty sort.

Vesuvius.—Pod rather short, petals smooth, the ground colour deep yellow, heavily and decidedly edged with scarlet; a beautiful variety.

As a trailing plant for a wall, I find the Palmate-leaved Ivy the best. I have plants against a wall, that have made shoots two feet long this summer; and the leaves are much cut. It looks beautiful.—F.F.

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I have this morning received an account of the heaviest Lancashire show gooseberries. Perhaps it may be of interest for the next number of the *Midland Florist*. The following are the four heaviest berries in each class:—

RED.	dwt.	gr.
London	27	19
Conquering Hero	25	21
Companion	24	5
Briton	23	8
YELLOW.		
Pilot	24	18
Catherina	23	4
Leader	22	0
Plugout	22	0

GREEN.	dwt.	gr.
Thumper	22	20
Weathercock	23	3
Turnout	22	0
Overall	21	18
WHITE.		
Queen of Trumps	24	12
Eagle	24	2
Freedom	22	17
Miss Walton	22	10

M. SAUL.

Garstang, Oct. 3, 1849.

REVIEWS.

THE JOURNAL OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WE have now the concluding part of the fourth volume of this very valuable work before us. Its contents, as usual, are varied and most interesting, especially the paper on the Vegetation of the Indian Archipelago. The Cultivation of Vines in Greenhouses, which we hope to extract for a future number. On the Management of Forest Trees, considered in relation to the durability of the Timber. Notes on some Varieties of Peas grown in the Garden of the Horticultural Society, in 1849, from which it appears that *Grimstone's Egyptian Pea*, which caused some interest, by its being stated in a pamphlet, that it was part of the produce of one of three peas found amongst the dust contained in a vase, 2844 years old, at the least, which had been buried in an Egyptian mummy pit. It has had a fair trial in the garden of the Horticultural Society. It was sown

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side by side with the Dwarf Branching Marrow, and the result arrived at by the authorities at the gardens, from daily observation, is, that this *wonderful mummy pea* is exactly like the above-named sort; neither more nor less than the Dwarf Branching Marrow, in habit, foliage, flowers, pods, and seeds.

How much better would it have been, had these peas been sent to the garden *before* they were sold to the public. Amongst peas recommended, and our readers may purchase on the opinion given, without fear of being *mummied*, are,

Bishop's New Longpod.—Sown March 21, fit for use June 28. About two feet high, very prolific, and excellent.

Fairbeard's Champion of England.—Sown March 21, fit for use June 30. Five feet high, long well-filled pods, fine quality, and described as "an abundant bearer, and highly deserving of cultivation."

British Queen.—Five feet. It is stated to be a good bearer, and valuable to those who are fond of quantity, as the peas *are as large as small beans.*

Maclean's Seedling.—Dwarf, rising about two feet, the peas very large, and of excellent quality. Sown March 21, fit for use July 3.

Bedman's Imperial.—This variety we have many years known to be a valuable and prolific sort, and we are glad to see its merits brought forward in the *Journal of the Horticultural Society*. Two and a half to three feet high. Described as "an excellent bearer, a variety well deserving of recommendation."

The Florist. Edited by E. Beck, Esq.

The number for October has a beautiful frontispiece of two carnations, *May's Romeo*, a rose flake, and *May's Owen Glendower*, a splendid crimson bizarre. The papers of most interest are, Cultivation of the Carnation and Picotee; My Rose Journal; Philosophy of Florists' Flowers, &c. Mr. Rivers, in the Rose Journal, states that *Blanche* is the only pure white perpetual, but that it has several very serious defects. *Madame Angelina* is described as "a most beautiful creamy-white Bourbon." We

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have bloomed it in great perfection this season. Its flowers are like wax. *Menoux* and *Marquis de Moyria* are brilliant carmine, but not so perfect in shape as they might be; whilst the following varieties have bloomed in unusual beauty, with their deep crimson purple flowers:—*Charles Souchet, Gloire de Paris, Julie de Fontenelle, Paul Joseph, Proserpine,* and *Souchet.* The other papers are of great general interest.

Part III.

QUERIES.

I have three apple trees in my garden, which make apparently healthy shoots every year, but they die, with the exception of a few. Some of the young wood, the thickness of the thumb, also dies; and other thicker branches have knobs or protuberances upon them. The trees are perhaps from fifteen to twenty years old. Your kind information how to restore them, through your valuable work, will extremely oblige,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Will the editor of the *Midland Florist*, or some of its numerous subscribers, give me their opinion on the following query? Our vine borders were dressed in the autumn, with good decayed cow-yard manure, from the forcing ground, and well protected from rain and sun with leaves and long littery straw. The borders were uncovered the latter end of April, or beginning of May, and the manure lightly forked in. The grapes in No. 1 house were then as large as marrowfat peas, No. 2 house just setting, and in houses No. 3 and 4, vines just breaking. My worthy employer wishing me to try the effect of guano, on No. 1 and 2 houses, the result has been that nearly all the Hamburgh grapes in these two houses are colourless, which I consider to have arisen from the guano, as all the bunches were extremely well coloured on a Hamburgh vine running out of No. 3 into No. 2 house, and to the roots of which no guano had been applied. The greater number of the vines are planted inside, the colour of the grapes being dark red, pale red, and some of a pinkish green; the fruit well ripened, rather inclined to shriveling, and flavour very good. The same treatment has been carried out as last year, when all the fruit was very fine in

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colour. Now the result in No. 3 and 4 houses is, the grapes finer and mostly well coloured. These vines were dressed with nothing but the dung as above stated, and liquid manure, the drainings of the dung heaps, which run into a tank, into which are thrown the carcasses of any dead animals, and which I consider far better than guano, or any other nostrum. I hope the question will be taken up by some brother gardener, who has given guano a trial; it is a matter that requires a little serious attention. The quantity of guano used was from three to four pounds to twenty-four or thirty gallons of water; and it was applied about every ten days or a fortnight, up to the time that the grapes began to change colour, somewhere in June. My dwarf French beans, in pots, were watered twice a week with the guano water, and did very well. An answer to the above will much oblige a subscriber to your valuable and esteemed little work from its commencement.

W. B. Charlton Kings.

Knowing that you are a vindicator of the rights of others, I take the liberty of making you acquainted with what I consider to be a piece of shameful injustice. I am a member of the West Riding Floral Society, and was at the show held at Dewsbury, on the 15th of August, where I obtained three first prizes and one second; the two first in red picotees. After the judges had decided, and the list had been made out more than an hour and a half, I left the room for a short time, and on coming back, I found that some of the party had plucked a petal out of the red picotee; and when the judges were called in a second time, two of them affirmed that it had thirteen petals when they first saw it, and then it had only twelve, and consequently I lost the prize. I believe the winners of the two following prizes had caused it to be done. By giving this a place in your valuable work, with your opinion upon the subject, you will much oblige

A Subscriber from the First.

[We think there can be but one opinion. The judges' award ought to have been final; they ought to have taken care that there had been no alteration.]

I should be much obliged, if you would tell me which are the best vines to train up the rafters of a greenhouse, and also for a forcing house. I should require five for each house, and also six for pot culture.

Letterington. I. Grice.

[For pot culture, get 2 Muscadine, 2 Dutch Sweetwater, and 2 Black Hamburgh. For the greenhouse, 2 Grove End Sweetwater, 1 Black Hamburgh, 1 Tripoli, and 1 Royal Muscadine. For the stove we would recommend the higher flavoured grapes, the Red and White Frontignac 1 each, 2 White Muscat, and 1 Black Damascus.]

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GRAFTING OLD TREES.—J. ROSS, *Worcester.*—The old fruit trees may be grafted in the cleft manner, in March. We would graft them with varieties lately originated. The Sturmere Pippin and Mannington Pearmain are first-rate. Spencer's Favourite and Celina, for middle season and late baking fruits, are excellent.

FLOUR-BALL POTATO.—W. SMITH.—The opinion expressed by our correspondent coincides with our own; it is second to none in cultivation. We have not yet seen it bear flowers. The small potatoes will do well for seed, next year.

NUTS AND FILBERTS.—The Dwarf Prolific Nut is the best in cultivation; the Red and White Filberts are well known and excellent; the Frizzled Filbert is beautiful and prolific; the Garrendon Nut, new and a great bearer. These are the best.

GRASS FOR LAWNS.—If our correspondent could inoculate, or plant small pieces of turf, from a good pasture, it would make the best lawn, in the least time. We have known the seeds which shake from hay, and which may be collected in any stable chamber, mixed with white clover, to answer admirably.

STAINED TULIPS.—The sooner Henry Scott throws them away the better. Try the seedlings by all means, but if not up to the mark, discard them.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR NOVEMBER.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

Carnations and *picotees* must be carefully kept from excess of moisture; heavy rains are extremely prejudicial, but if well established in pots, they will withstand a great amount of frost. A free circulation of air is indispensable. We have seen large collections of these flowers kept in frames, with wooden shutters, the pots being plunged in dry leaves.

Pansies.—It is full late enough to transplant, but should the weather prove open, it may still be done. Where seedlings stand thick together, they may be lifted carefully, with small quantities of soil attached, and planted out at regular distances.

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Auriculas.—Give plenty of air and but little moisture. They are hardy enough, and one of the greatest obstacles to their well doing is a stagnant, close, and confined atmosphere; their natural habits revolt at such treatment. Drip is death to them; therefore the lights of the frames should be as sound as paint, glass, and putty can make them.

Pinks.—If hard weather comes, and rabbits are in the neighbourhood, dust these plants with soot; those gentry are not very partial to this most excellent application; it has also the effect of driving insect depredators away, as well as acting beneficially on the plants themselves. Stir between them, as occasion requires.

Tulips.—These ought to be in the ground. We have before given directions for plantiug. A valued correspondent advises placing some powdered charcoal, made from porous wood, beneath the bulbs; from experiments made by himself, he finds it to be highly beneficial to them.

This month will be a good time for collecting leaves, &c. for compost, &c. Rotten straw and wood, and decayed thatch from old buildings, ought to be highly prized by every florist.

GREENHOUSE.

Air must at all times be given, when the weather permits make a fire occasionally, to dry up any dampness that may have been contracted; but fire heat should not be used unnecessarily.

Some plants, even at this season, will be infested with green fly, therefore fumigations may be given now and then. *Calceolarias* are peculiarly liable to this pest.

Give *chrysanthemums* liquid manure, not too strong, once a week; and as soon as their bloom is past, they may be removed into a sheltered situation, the pots plunged in leaves or ashes, and screened from very severe weather by boards, or by any other process most convenient.

That pretty plant, the *Cuphea platycentra*, will be yet in flower. We have large plants, that have stood in the open border all the summer, in halfpeck pots, that have now thousands of blooms on them, and few things are so gay at this season. Keep cuttings of *verbenas* near the light, and do not allow them, or any other soft-wooded plants, to have too much moisture.

Hyacinths should be potted in a mixture of leaf mould, sand, and very rotten cow manure. Our readers should inquire for the following, which are very select:—

Double Red.—Waterloo, Comte de la Coste, Lord Wellington.
Double Blue.—Newton, Bloksberg, and Buffon.
Double White.—Sphera mundi, Venus, and La Tour d'Auvergne.
Single Blue.—Emicus, Grand Vidette, and Nimrod.
Single Red.—Duchess of Richmond, Lord Byron, and L'Eclair.

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Single White.—Grand Vainqueur, and Victoria Regina. These will please whoever grows them well. *Narcissuses, Persian irises, crocuses,* &c. ought all to be planted immediately.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Early peas may still be sown, and towards the middle of the month, *rhubarb* may be forced, by placing coverings of leaves, or pots, on the crowns of the plants, and heaping dung over them. Where a great quantity of oak leaves are available, they form the most steady as well as the least objectionable medium of heat. *Sea-kale*, in the open border, may be covered with pots manufactured on purpose, and the roots forced in a similar manner.

Earth up *cabbage* and protect *lettuce*. Do not allow *potatoes* to lie in heaps of too large a size. We find that many of ours, though not perceptibly diseased when taken up, are now suffering very much.

FRUIT GARDEN.

If fruit is not already got, it ought to be as speedily as possible. We think that American flour barrels might be bought cheaply, and filled, and much room saved by laying them down on their sides; the name of the fruit could be written on the ends of the barrels, and the best keepers put in the lowest tier; those required first might be placed above them, and thus in a room or place secure from frost, a great variety of sorts could be stored. A dry cellar would be a most excellent place.

Where there are worthless trees, that will not do to graft, they may now be grubbed up, and replaced with better sorts.

Gooseberries and *currants*, and in fact, all deciduous trees (those that drop their leaves in winter,) may be planted during open weather.

On mild fine days, train and nail *wall trees*. When wet, prepare shreds, and make pegs or sticks for plants, small trellises, &c.

In the shrubbery and flower garden, a general cleaning should take place. If the leaves are wanted, they should be removed to the soil yard, or compost heap, and then the borders be carefully forked over. A fork is much better than a spade, especially where bulbs are in the ground. All dead stems should be removed. Many of those belonging to the strong-growing phloxes make excellent and neat supports for small plants, and should therefore be saved. *Box edging* may be repaired, *evergreens* pruned, and division of *perennial plants* proceeded with. If frost has not, by this time, cut off the *half hardy plants* used in summer decoration, they should be taken up directly, if worth the while, for their unsightly appearance, when destroyed by frost, cannot be tolerated in a well kept garden.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. J. Beech, Rising Sun Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 21.

Best of any Colour.—Jones's Huntsman, W. Griffiths.

Purple-laced.

Premier—Jones's Huntsman, D. Brown
1 Ditto, W. Griffiths.
2 Hand's Pilot, T. Boot.
3 Taylor's Mango, E. Barker.
4 Bradshaw's Greensides, R. Moorley.
5 Tilstone's R. Cobden, W. Griffiths.
6 Faulkner's Perfection, ditto.
7 Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, D. Brown.
8 Williams's True Blue, R. Moorley.
9 Seedling, E. Barker.
10 Ditto ditto

Red-laced.

Premier.—Lee's Josh. Sturge, S. Plant.
1 Ditto ditto.
2 Mead's Susanna, D. Brown.
3 Golton's George IV., ditto.
4 Bradshaw's Greensides, R. Moorley.
5 Trickett's Adam Smith, ditto.
6 Williams's Thirza, W. Griffiths.
7 Seedling, T. Boot.
8 Ditto ditto.
9 Southern's Bonny Bett, W. Griffiths.
10 Seedling, ditto.

Black and White.

Premier.—Whalley's Beauty of Claton, E. Barker.
1 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, R. Moorley.
2 Bradshaw's Margaret, W. Griffiths.
3 Seedling Fairy Queen, E. Barker.
4 Seedling, ditto.
5 Millman's Lillia, ditto.
6 Groves's Snowdrop, ditto.
7 Taylor's Mrs. Frost, J. Beech.
8 Parry's Union, W. Griffiths.
9 Black-eyed Susan, D. Brown.
10 Seedling, ditto.

Judges.—Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch; and Mr. E. Harding, Stoke-road.

OXFORD PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. T. Davis, Cockpit Holiwell.

The blooms were considered finer than had been seen anywhere this season. The judges, after a minute inspection, awarded the prizes as under:—

1st. Looker's Warner Henley, Esq., Maclean's Criterion, Looker's Achilles, Hall's Queen of England, Smith's Whipperin and Diana, and Kirtland's Lord Valentia, T. Looker.

2nd. Hall's Queen of England, Kirtland's Lord Valentia, Hodges's Mars, Seedling, Smith's Whipperin, Seedling, and Smith's Diana, J. Hastings.

3rd. Smith's Diana, Hall's Queen of England, Hodges's Mars, Hastings's Tom Long, Kirtland's Dr. Daubeny, Smith's Whipperin, and Kirtland's Lord Valentia, W. Hastings.

4th. Looker's Mary Ann, Smith's Diana, Looker's Duchess of Marlborough, Bell's Seedling, Harris's King of Purples, Henbury's Rubens, and Smith's Harkforward, H. Bell.

5th. Kirtland's Gaylad, Hall's Queen of England, Hodges's Mars, Hastings's Tom Long, Smith's Diana, Harris's King of Purples and Duchess of Kent, J. Bates.

6th. Looker's Duchess of Marlborough, Hardstone's Prince Albert, Hodges's Mars, Hand's Pilot, Hastings's Tom Long, Kerr's Harriet, and Kirtland's Gaylad, D. Roberts.

Seedling prize, J. Hastings.

PINK SHOW.

The annual pink show was held at Mr. Thomas Oxley's, the Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield, when a fine show of pinks and other flowers, as well as vegetables of different sorts, was exhibited. The prizes were awarded as follow:—

Young Growers.—Ruby, J. Powels; Ayrdale Beauty, H. Hydes.

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Purple-laced.
The Cup.—Greensides, A. Knutt.
Premier.—Ruby, J. Powels.
1 Ayrdale Beauty, H. Hydes.
2 Suarrow, J. Powels.
3 Greensides, S. Tomlinson.
4 Coronation, G. Brassington.
5 Mango, S Tomlinson.
6 Surplice, G. Brassington.
7 Attractive, A. Knutt.

Red-laced.
Premier.—Sturge, A. Knutt.
1 Ditto ditto.
2 Dr. Hepworth, H. Bateman.
3 Adam Smith, A. Knutt.
4 Lady Antrobus, G. Brassington.
5 Susanna, H. Barker.
6 Louis Tasso, H. Bateman.
7 Miss Brandling, H. Barker.

Black and White.
Premier.—Miss Jessop, H. Barker.
1 Ditto ditto.
2 Lady Frost, G. Brassington.
3 Alice Hawthorn, H. Barker.
4 Virgin Queen, G. Brassington.
5 Standard of England, A. Knutt.
6 Beauty of Claton-le-Moor, ditto.
7 Citizen, H. Barker.

As the seedlings were unnamed, we have not inserted them.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

At the George Hotel, Northampton, July 18.

CARNATIONS.

Best Six Blooms.—1. Ely's Regular, Hall's Prince Albert, Ely's Lord Milton, Wilson's William IV., Paulin's Duchess of Gloucester, and Milwood's Premier, E. Weston. 2. Ely's Jolly Dragoon, Hepworth's True Briton, Holmes's Count Paulina, Simpson's Marquis of Granby, Martin's Maria, and Hudson's Miss Thornton, I. Carter. 3. Kay's Omnium Primus, Marris's Thomas Hood, Hardwick's Firebrand, Elliott's Martha, Barringer's Earl Spencer, and Milwood's Premier, B. Vialls.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Lodge's True Briton, B. Vialls.
2 Esom's Admiral Curzon, I. Carter.
3 Lodge's True Briton, B. Vialls.

Crimson Bizarres.
1 Holmes's Count Paulina, E. Weston.
2 Ely's Lord Milton, W. Bullock.
3 Miss Costar, S. Rabbitt.

Scarlet Flakes.
1 Addenbrook's Lydia, S. Rabbitt.
2 Seedling, I. Carter.
3 Hardwick's Firebrand, W. Bullock.

Rose Flakes.
1 Unknown, S. Rabbitt.
2 Wilson's Harriet, I. Carter.
3 Tomlyn's Brisies, E. Weston.

Purple Flakes.
1 Hudson's Miss Thornton, I. Carter.
2 Barringer's Earl Spencer, B. Vialls.
3 Milwood's Premier, E. Weston.

PICOTEES.

Best Six Blooms.—1. Wildman's Isabella, Holliday's Henrietta, Kirtland's Princess Augusta of Cambridge, Barringer's Miss Duke, Gatliff's Proconsul, and Burroughs's Lady Alice Peel, B. Vialls. 2. Giddins's Teazer, Brooks's Duchess of Cambridge, Dickson's Trip to Cambridge, Burroughs's Duke of Newcastle, Barnard's Mrs. Barnard, and Martin's Queen Victoria, W Bullock.

Heavy Red.
1 Martin's Prince George, W. Bullock.
2 Ditto, I. Macquire.
3 Unknown, E. Weston.

Light Red.
1 Jessop's Sir Wm. Middleton, I. Carter.
2 Ditto, E. Weston.
3 Sharp's La Delicata, B. Vialls.

Heavy Purple.
1 Brinklow's Lady Chesterfield, B. Vialls.
2 Brinklow's Conductor, W. Bullock.
3 Duchess of Sutherland, I. Carter.

Light Purple.
1 Burroughs's Duke of Newcast, B. Vialls
2 Sharp's L'Elegant, I. Carter.
3 Burroughs's Duke of Newcastle, W. Bullock.

Heavy Rose.
1 Willmer's Princess Royal, B. Vialls.

Light Rose.
1 Burroughs's Lady Alice Peel, B. Vialls.
2 Ditto ditto.

Heavy Yellow.
1 Barraud's Euphemia, S. Rabbitt.
2 Ditto, B. Vialls.

Light Yellow.
1 Martin's Queen Victoria, B. Vialls.
2 Ditto, E. Weston.

There was also a very splendid show of stove and greenhouse plants, roses, calceolarias, verbenas, and other miscellaneous plants, cut flowers, fruit, and vegetables. The carnations and picotees were rather small, owing to the season being later than was expected when the day was fixed.

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STAMFORD HILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

July 18th, this society held their third and last exhibition of the season, in the grounds of I. Wilson, Esq. It was well attended, and in addition to a most respectable show of fruit, cut flowers, and plants, there was an open exhibition of carnations and picotees, which brought together the principal growers. Judging from the size and brilliancy of the blooms, they must have been at the best, at least about London.

CARNATIONS.

Twenty-four Blooms.—1. Mr. C. Turner, Slough, with Brutus (Colcutt), Antonio (May), Prince Albert (C.B.), Flora's Garland (Brooks), Prince Albert (Hall), Queen (Puxley), Beauty of Woodhouse (Mansley), Count Pauline (Holmes), 'Squire Trow (Jackson), Puxley's Albert (C.B.), Lorenzo (May), Faulconbridge (May), Caliban (May). Ariel (May), Splendid (Martin), Timon (May), Fireball (Ward), Premier (Millwood), Admiral Curzon (Easom), Paul Pry (Wakefield), Queen Victoria (Simpson), Omnium Primus (Kay), Sarah Payne (Ward), Lord Rancliffe (Holliday). 2. Mr. Norman, Woolwich, with Flora's Garland, Sir Joshua Reynolds (Hughes), True Briton (Hepworth), Rainbow (Cartwright), Telemachus (Willmer), Antagonist (Hepworth), Vivid (Hepworth), Brutus (Colcutt), Royal Chancellor (Headley), Conquering Hero (Willmer), Queen Victoria (Simpson), Princess Victoria (Smith), Lydia (Addenbrook), Harriet (Wilson), Count Pauline (Holmes), Beauty of Woodhouse (Mansley). Edgar (May), Prince Albert (Hall), Lord Rancliffe (Holliday), Chance (Waile), Sir H. Hardinge (Ely), Ulysses (Bucknall), Admiral Curzon (Easom), Incognita (Headley). 3. Mr. Ward, Woolwich. 4. Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Mr. Edwards, Holloway, with Prince Albert (Hall), Solander (Willmer), Flora's Garland (Brooks), Juba (Colcutt), Lady of the Lake, Duke of Bedford, William Penn (Turner), Regular, Beauty of Woodhouse, Martha, Prince Albert, Lorenzo (May). 2. Mr. Newhall, Woolwich, Brisies (Tomlyne), Prince Albert (Hall), Princess Royal (Seeley), Sir Joshua Reynolds, Count Pauline (Holmes), Lorenzo (May), Lord Rancliffe (Holliday), Earl of Errol (Willmer), Ariel (May), Lord Pollington (Ely), Beauty of Woodhouse, Admiral Curzon (Easom). 3. Mr. Barringer, Bedford. 4. Mr. Ellis, Woolwich.

PICOTEES.

Twenty-four Blooms.—1. Mr. C. Turner, Slough, with Prince Albert (Marris), Heroine (Youell), Prince of Wales (Marris), Rosamond (Trahar), May's Seedling 1848, Constance (May), Duchess of Sutherland (Burroughs), May's Seedling 1848, Portia (May), Miss Duke (Barringer), Mrs. Barnard (Barnard), Regina (Cox), Lorina (Burroughs), Jessica (May), Anne Page (May), Mrs. Bright (Ely), General Jackson (Burroughs), Isabella (Wildman), President (Burroughs), Lady H. Moore (Turner), Sebastian (May), Juliet (May), Venus (Headley), Gem (Youell). 2. Mr. Norman, Woolwich, with Jane (Forman), Duke of Newcastle (Burroughs), Mrs. Barnard (Barnard), Mrs. B. Norman (Norman), Lady Dacre (Garrett), Queen (Craske), Portia (May), Mrs. Bevan (Burroughs), Lord Nelson (Norman), Elegant (Sharpe), James II. (Norman), Delicata (Norman), Isabella (Wildman), Enchantress (Matthews), Margiana (Burroughs), Princess Royal (Willmer), Delicata (Holliday), Unique (Hudson), Lord Randolph (Holliday), Venus (Headley), Regina (Cox), Amy (Burroughs), Emma (Burroughs), Viola (Hollyoake). 3. Mr. Ward, Woolwich. 4. Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Mr. Newhall, Woolwich, with Queen of England (Barringer), Princess Royal (Marris), Duke of Wellington (Sharpe), Lady Dacre (Garrett), Mrs. Barnard (Barnard), Sebastian (May), Elegant (Sharp), Duke of Wellington (Burroughs), Prince Albert (Craske), Mrs. Burdett Coutts (Burroughs), Regina (Cox), Isabella (Wildman). 2. Mr. J. Edwards, Holloway, with Constance (May), L'Elegant (Sharpe), Emma, Mrs. Bevan, General Jackson, Lady Chesterfield, Lady Dacre, Sebastian (May), Jessica (May), Prince, Portia (May), Mrs. Barnard. 3. Mr. Ellis, Woolwich. 4. Mr. Barringer, Bedford.

The nurserymen present both wisely and liberally gave up the classes of twelve blooms to the amateurs. A prize was awarded to a light-edged picotee, Burroughs's Duchess of Sutherland, a flower which appeared to excite universal admiration. The band of the 2nd Life Guards was in attendance.

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ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH, CARNATION AND PICOTEE EXHIBITION,

On no occasion do we believe was there ever such an exhibition of these our favourite flowers, as on the 24th of July, for not only did the metropolitan exhibiters attend, with their several collections of blooms, for competition, as is hereafter given, but the new conservatory, just completed, some thirty-six feet square, with six roofs in the ridge and furrow style (similar to one presented some time since to the Royal Horticultural Society, Chiswick, by Messrs. Hartley, of Sunderland), in which was Mr. C. Turner's plants, in the finest and best state of bloom ever seen in one collection; and this was the generally expressed opinion of the many growers present, and representing as they did, the midland, southern, and western counties, warrants us in the assertion with which we commenced our present notice. There were near upon six hundred pots (twelves) of carnations and picotees staged in this one house, and no less a number than one thousand five hundred and thirty blooms regularly carded, and secured by the blooming wire to the stake. These numbers are not a matter of guess, but a plain matter of fact; neither were they of casual arrangement, each pot being so staged that the blooms radiated from a given point; thus all was order, and gave unmistakable evidence of immense care, resulting from a master mind. The foliage, or more technically, the grass, was in high health, quite in keeping with the bloom. Of specimens (and they were truly specimens) we noticed, Flora's Garland, Puxley's Queen, Lord Milton, Hamlet, Paul Pry, Lorenzo, Antonio, Ariel, Earl Spencer, Mercutio, Dido, Beauty of Woodhouse, Splendid, Puxley's Prince Albert, Princess Royal, Lord Rancliffe, Tyford Perfection, Caliban, Rainbow, Thomas Hewlett, Sarah Payne, Premier, Queen of Purples, Lady Ely, Prince Arthur; some fine things of Mr. Puxley's, not named; and two or three of Mr. May's seedlings, very fine, not yet christened by the raiser, who seems desirous of perpetuating the entire Shaksperian nomenclature. In picotees, we had, Ernest, Juliet, Isabella, Duke of Wellington, Marris's Prince Albert and Prince of Wales, Lorina, Olivia, Mrs. Barnard, Regina, Queen Victoria (Green), Marquis of Exeter, Venus, Enchantress, Lady A. Peel, Pride of the Village, Queen of Roses, Princess Royal, Lady Harriet Moore, Amy, Duchess of Sutherland, Jessica, King James, Gem, Jenny Lind, Sebastian, Constance, Portia, Phœbe, &c.; and of yellows, Euphemia, Malay Chief, Queen Victoria, Benvolie, Willmer's Queen, Topaz, Parsee Bride, &c.

It was somewhat amusing to notice at the close of the exhibition, and the note of preparation sounded for the next day's battle, with what avidity was given the information to Mr. Turner, that "this is the best Garland," this "the best Lorenzo," that "the best Regina," and so on, throughout the entire collection, as Mr. T. refrained from showing cut specimens at his own exhibition, and not till near seven o'clock did he allow one bloom to be cut, wherefrom to choose for the next day's (South London) contest, where he was entirely successful, carrying off the first prizes in both carnations and picotees, each twenty-four blooms, and also obtaining first-class certificates for Picotees Lorina, Duchess of Sutherland, and Lady H. Moore.

Class A. Open. Twelve Carnations, dissimilar.—1. Mr. Norman, Woolwich, for Hardwick's Firebrand, Flora's Garland, 'Squire Meynell, Hale's Prince Albert, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Royal Chancellor, Vivid, May's Edgar, Lord Rancliffe, Sarah Payne, Simpson's Queen, and Splendid. 2. Mr. Ward, Woolwich, for Flora's Garland, 'Squire Meynell, Bright Phœbus, Georgiana, Rainbow, Ariel, Lord Milton, Hale's Prince Albert, Beauty of Brighouse, Puxley's Prince Albert, Brutus, and John Wright. 3. Mr. Willmer, Sunbury, for Flora's Garland, Brutus, Rainbow, Duke of York, Huntsman, Duke of Bedford, 'Squire Trow, Count Paulise, Beauty of Woodhouse, Marquis of Chandos, Sarah Payne, and Admiral Curzon.

Class B Private Growers. Twelve Carnations, dissimilar.—1. Morgan May, Esq. for May's Shylock, Antonio, Falstaff, Lorenzo, Romeo, Justice Shallow, Percy, Bardolph, Ariel, Beauty of Woodhouse, Puxley's Prince Albert (P.P.B.), and Puxley's Prince Albert (S.B.) 2. J. W. Newhall, Esq., Woolwich, for Hero of Middlesex, Ariel, True Briton, Sealy's Princess Royal, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Lord Rancliffe, Bright Phœbus, Mrs. Banton, Lovely Ann, Georgiana, 'Squire Meynell, and Princess. 3. J. Edwards, Esq. Holloway, for Duke of York, William Penn, Prince Albert, Lady of the Lake, Sarah Payne, Prince Arthur, Dr. Solander, Georgiana, Harriet, True Briton, Flora's Garland, Lord Morpeth.

Class C. Open. Twelve Picotees, dissimilar.—1. Mr. Norman, Woolwich, for Mrs. B. Norman, Unique, Delicata, Lady Dacre, Juliet, Mrs. Barnard, Seedling, Amy, Youell's Gem, King James, Princess Royal, and L'Elegante.

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2. Mr Ward, Woolwich, for Princess Royal, Mrs. Bevan, Amy, Lady Dacre, Youell's Gem, Venus, Juliet, seedling, Isabella, Jenny Lind, Regina, and King James. 3. Mr. Willmer, Sunbury, for L'Elegante, Green's Queen, Mrs. Bevan, Lady A. Peel, Field Marshal, Venus, Jenny Lind, Princess Royal, Juliet, King James, General Jackson, and Mrs. Barnard.

Class D. Private Growers. Twelve Picotees, dissimilar.—1. Morgan May, Esq. for May's Portia, Ann Page, Beatrice, Constance de Miranda, Juliet, and Audrey, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs Bevan, Isabella, Enchantress, and Princess Royal. 2. J. Edwards, Esq. Holloway, for Sebastian, Princess Royal, L'Elegante, Jessica, Lord Hardinge, Mrs. Bevan, Queen Victoria (Green), Lady A. Peel, Regina, Isabella, General Jackson, and Miss Edwards. 3. J. W. Newhall, Esq. Woolwich, for Mrs. Bevan, Princess Royal, Sharp's Wellington, Jessica, Duchess of Cambridge, Regina, Delicata, Wildman's Isabella, Venus, Marris's Prince of Wales, Captivation and Sebastian

Class E. Seedling Carnations, Two Blooms each Variety.—First class certificates to Owen Glendower (May), and also the extra prize for best seedling, to Falconbridge (May) and Romeo (May),

Class F. Seedling Picotees, Two blooms each Variety.—First class certificates (and also the extra prize for best seedling, to Burroughs's Duchess of Sutherland,) Lorina, Ann Page, Lord Nelson, Prince Alfred, Miss Edwards, Mary, and Juno.

We were happy to learn that the censors gave entire satisfaction. We particularly notice this, as the majority of the gentlemen in office were from our midland counties, Derby and Northampton.

ALL-ENGLAND CARNATION AND PICOTEE SHOW,

At the County-hall, Derby, August 2.

The Judges were, E. J. Lowe, Esq. Highfield House, near Nottingham; Mr. Lamb, Osmaston Hall; Mr. Atkinson, Rolleston Hall; Mr. Charles Turner, Slough; Mr. J. F. Wood, editor of the *Midland Florist*; and Mr. B. Ely, Rothwell Haigh, Yorkshire. The following is a list of their awards:—

CARNATIONS, TWELVE DISSIMILAR BLOOMS.

1. Barringer's Derby, Flora's Garland, Lord Rancliffe, Georgiana, Brabbin's 'Squire Meynell, Barringer's Duke of Devonshire, Oldham's Superb, Don John, King of Scarlets, Admiral Curzon, Firebrand, and Ely's Lord Milton, Mr. Barringer, nurseryman, Bedford.

2. True Briton, Martin's President, Pyracanthus, Omnium Primus, Flora's Garland, Elliott's Brilliant, Admiral Curzon, Lord Byron, Premier, Wood's William IV., Lorenzo and Seedling, Mr. Dodwell.

3. Lorenzo, Puxley's Prince Albert (S. B.,) Martin's President, Lord Rancliffe, Omnium Primus, Wood's William IV., Admiral Curzon, Premier, Duke of Bedford, Vernon Smith, Prince Albert (C. B.,) and Unknown, Mr. Adams.

4 Millwood's Premier, Hale's Prince Albert, Eason's Ocean Queen, 'Squire Meynell, Patriarch, Rob Roy, Admiral Curzon, Gregory's Alfred, Lady Ely, Lord Milton, Mango, and Firebrand, Mr. Buswell.

5. 'Squire Meynell, Prince Albert, Lydia, Wood's William IV., Paul Pry, Lovely Ann, Miss Thornton, Wilson's William IV., Admiral Curzon, Smith's Queen Victoria, Ocean Queen, and Duke of Sutherland, Mr. Broughton.

6. Appleby's Rainbow, Martin's President, Merryweather's Jenny Lind, Lodge's Royal Briton, Jane Clough, Pyracanthus, Earl Spencer, Lord Brougham, Premier, Lady Gardiner, Chadwick's Brilliant, and Wood's Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Merryweather.

7. Hepworth's Hamlet, Puxley's Prince Albert, Wilson's William IV., May's Edgar, Hale's Lady of the Lake, Bryan's Transcendent, Slater's Gladiator, Moreton's Lovely Mary, Admiral Curzon, Premier, Brutus, and Massey's Esther, Mr. Lakin.

PICOTEES, TWELVE DISSIMILAR BLOOMS.

1. Marris's Prince Albert, Wildman's Isabella, May's Olivia, Dodwell's Mary, Enchantress, Mrs. Barnard, Marris's Prince of Wales, Seedling, Willmer's Princess Royal, Gem, Venus, and Fairy Queen, Mr. Dodwell.

2. Brinklow's Goliath, Leader, Princess Royal, Duke of Wellington, Barringer's No. 25, Green's Queen, Youell's Gem, Brinklow's Mrs. Beard, King James, May's Juliet, Barringer's Fanny, and Barringer's No. 26, Mr. Barringer Bedford.

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3. Sebastian, Mrs. Bevan, Portia, Princess Royal, Mrs. Barnard, Olivia, Miss Burdett Coutts, Miss Duke, Isabella, Costar's Triumph, Pride of the Village, and Marris's Prince of Wales, Mr. Adams.

4. Dickson's Sophia, Sir William Middleton, Enchantress, Queen Victoria, Nulli Secundus, Miss Duke, Proconsul, Gem, Princess Royal, Seedling, Vespasian, and Wildman's Isabella, Mr. Buswell.

5. Mrs. Bevan, Portia, Enchantress, Seedling, Perfection, Seedling, John's Prince Albert, Green's Queen, Duchess of Cambridge, Sharp's Comet, Lady Alice Peel, and Burroughs's President, Mr. Merryweather.

6. Willmer's Princess Royal, Field Marshal, Mrs. Bevan, John's Prince Albert, Ely's Duchess of Buccleugh, Barringer's Unique, Crask's Queen, Wildman's Isabella, Princess Alice Seedling, Jenny Lind, and Burroughs's President, Mr. Broughton.

7. Burroughs's President, Mrs. Bevan, Enchantress, Jessop's Sir William Middleton, Crask's Prince Albert, Fanny Irby, Unknown, Wildman's Isabella, Princess Alice, Mrs. Horner, May's Portia, and Gibbons's Katherine, Mr. John Lowe.

8. Portia, L'Elegant Seedling, Ely's Field Marshal, Maid of Orleans, Isabella, King of Roses, Duke of Newcastle, Mrs. Horner, Katherina, John's Prince Albert, and Giddin's Teaser, Mr. Lakin.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Easom's Admiral Curzon, Mr. Dodwell.
2 True Briton (Hepworth's), ditto.
3 Colcut's Brutus, ditto.
4 Seedling, Mr. Schofield.
5 Lord Rancliffe, Mr. Merryweather.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Ely's Lord Milton, Mr. Barringer.
2 Paul Pry, Mr. Brougham.
3 Wood's William IV., Mr. Dodwell.
4 Duke of Bedford, Mr. Parkinson.
5 Gregory's Alfred, Mr. Jos. Slater.

Purple Flakes.

1 'Squire Meynell, Mr. Barringer.
2 Massey's Esther, Mr. Dodwell.
3 Martin's President, Mr. Merryweather.
4 Premier, Mr. Dodwell.
5 Lord Byron, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Seedling 100, Mr. Barringer.
2 Hardwick's Firebrand, Mr. Dodwell.
3 Hardwick's Dr. Pattison, Mr. Barringer.
4 Hero of Middlesex, Mr. Dodwell.
5 Beauty of Brighouse, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

1 Lovely Ann, Mr. Barringer.
2 Elliott's Martha, ditto.
3 Apollo, ditto.
4 Lorenzo, Mr. Dodwell.
5 Lady Ely, ditto.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Sebastian, Mr. Dodwell.
2 Isabella, ditto.
3 Seedling, Mr. Barringer.
4 Duchess of Cambridge, Mr. Dodwell.
5 Sir William Middleton, ditto.

Light-edged Red.

1 Dodwell's Mary, Mr. Dodwell.
2 Brinklow's Duchess of Bedford, Mr. Barringer.
3 Seedling, Mr. Merryweather.
4 Mrs. Bevan, Mr. Dodwell.
5 Seedling, ditto.

Heavy Purple.

1 Marris's Prince Albert, Mr. Dodwell.
2 Princess Alice, Mr. Barringer.
3 Portia, Mr. Adams.
4 Olivia, Mr. Dodwell.
5 Field Marshal, ditto.

Light Purple.

1 Matthews's Enchantress, Mr. Barringer.
2 Pride of the Village, Mr. Dodwell.
3 Julier, ditto.
4 Fairy Queen, Mr. Barringer.
5 Sophia, ditto.

Heavy Rose.

1 Venus, Mr. Dodwell.
2 Seedling, Mr. Barringer.
3 Princess Royal, ditto.
4 Fanny Irby, ditto.
5 Green's Queen, Mr. Dodwell.

Light Rose.

1 Mr. Barnard, Mr. Dodwell.
2 Seedling 101, Mr. Barringer.
3 Seedling, Mr. Dodwell.
4 Brinklow's Seedling, Mr. Barringer.
5 Sharp's Comet, Mr. Merryweather.

The extra prizes offered by John Edwards, Esq., for the best carnation, and the best picotee of any class, seedlings included, were awarded to Mr. Dodwell; the former for a fine bloom of Easom's Admiral Curzon, S. B., the latter for a bloom of a light red seedling, named Mary, a very pure and promising variety, of fine substance and quality.

First-class certificates were awarded to Mr. Charles Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough, for Burroughs's Lorina (six blooms), a delicate light purple picotee, of extra fine form, good substance and quality; and for Turner's Lady Harriet Moore (six blooms), also a fine light purple-edged variety.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

HARDY SHRUBS, SUITABLE FOR GARDENS, SHRUBBERIES, ETC.

BY THE EDITOR.

[Concluded for the present year, from page 334.]

We shall, after the thanks we have received from our various readers, conclude this subject, in our present volume, with another paper on flowering and evergreen shrubs, because it is a good time to move them, and those of our friends who contemplate a little embellishment, even if it is *very little*, will find, we hope, our observations useful. We usually write in a homely style, which, we trust, is not only better understood, but also better appreciated.

We think our florist friends will have no cause of complaint, as to lack of information in their "peculiar branch," during the present year. We have yet plenty in store for them, and only want space and opportunity to bring it out; but we have readers of all tastes and feelings to please, and as we receive no letters of disapproval, we conclude that we are going on tolerably well. We must not, however, forget our subject—*beautiful hardy plants.* As a miser loves his sovereigns, so do we admire and prize the interesting and beautiful forms of which nature is so prodigal; but we really must begin, and that too with the Menziesias, a pretty heathlike tribe. They have been called, and perhaps with great propriety, "The Irish Heath" (Erica dabœcia)—shrubs not rising more than eighteen inches to two feet, and almost always in flower. There is the common sort, *Dabœcia polifolia*, with large light purple pendent

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bells; the *D. atropurpurea*, rather more compact in growth than the preceding, with flowers of a much darker shade; *D. nana*, very dwarf, compact, and mosslike in its growth—an interesting small shrub.

We cannot say much for the Double-flowering Menziesia. As a novelty, and a variety, it is very well; but it stands in the same position as the Double Arbutus, which, when in blossom, is not half so pretty as the single one.

The white variety is most abundant in some parts of Ireland, and is very handsome, but rather diffuse, and at some seasons it looks shabby, from the upper part of the spikes fading. A much better and most interesting sort is the *Upright White-flowering Irish Heath*, erect, like the Irish Yew and the Irish Juniper, with dark shining foliage; its snow-white globular bells are produced in great profusion. These plants delight in sandy peat, or heath mould; nevertheless, they grow well with us in damp turfy loam.

The Barberries are now getting an extensive family; even the common variety is a beautiful shrub, covered with golden yellow flowers in spring, and pendent with scarlet fruit in autumn, looking at a distance like an autumnal Scarlet-flowering Currant (Ribes sanguinea).

Did our readers ever think of vegetables or plants possessing feeling? The Sensitive Plant tells of irritability, by shrinking from the hand which touches it. Next spring, if any one will procure a bunch of flowers of the common or any other variety (for the sensibility extends to the evergreen North American species), and pluck a hair from his own head, and apply it to the lower part of the stamens, they will immediately close up to the pointal or stigma, evidencing a high degree of susceptibility. We mention this, that any of our readers may try it for themselves, as an illustration of vegetable excitability.

The *Purple-leaved Barberry* is deciduous (dropping its foliage in autumn), but it is a singular and good

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shrub, with deep orange flowers. The *B. aristata* is strong-growing, not quite evergreen, simple-leaved, but producing an immense number of flowers. The *B. dulcis* is a beautiful evergreen, one of the most graceful we possess. In favourable seasons, it produces fruit something like the *hurt* or whortleberry, but as for being *sweet*, as its scientific name implies, the fruit is the reverse. It ought to be grown in every garden, however small. *B. empetrifolia* is a heath-leaved evergreen plant, rather trailing in its habit, but delicate and beautiful; its thousands of small globular orange flowers are fairylike and most interesting. Like B. dulcis, it should have a place wherever it can be grown.

There are many other Barberries. Some botanists call them *Mahonias*, because their leaves are compound, like the ash. They are now getting common. *Berberis aquifolia* (Holly-leaved Barberry) is well adapted for shady situations. It will do for northern aspects, where many other things will not grow, and is one of the best evergreens we have. *B. fascicularis* is rather tender; but seedlings raised between it and the previous sort have produced *B. fascicularis hybrida*, a remarkably vigorous shrub. *B. magnifico* is a variety, we presume, originated in the same manner, and it has been very beautiful with us, this season. It is of erect and strong habit, and the flowers, in spring, clothe the branches with bright yellow; the foliage is also remarkably good.

At this time of the year, there is the very beautiful *Pyrus*, or, more properly speaking, the *Cydonia Japonica*, or *Japanese Quince*. For training up the side of a house, over lattice-work, it is really a splendid plant; as a bush, it is attractive, but then it grows awkwardly; for a pillar, it is excellent. It produces an immense quantity of applelike blossoms, of stout texture and a rich and beautiful scarlet. Grafted on the common quince, it is said to make a very handsome small tree. We have not tried to work it of late years; when we did, the buds were

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so greedily eaten by insects, that although the grafts pushed forth repeatedly, they were destroyed, perhaps for want of a little vigilance on our part. The *White-flowering Japanese Quince* is a variety of the above, but certainly not so handsome. It grows and blooms in a similar manner, but the white is not very pure. How the two trained together might look, we do not know, as we have not tried them, but the contrast, we imagine, would be pretty.

SELECT AND BEAUTIFUL AUTUMNAL ROSES. BOURBONS.

BY H. S. M.

A MONTH ago, I told you of some hybrid perpetual roses, that I had either seen or cultivated myself, and as the weather, up to the present time (October 30), has continued open, and I have many in bloom, I think I cannot do better than continue my observations. These are not generally so fragrant as the perpetuals, partaking also of the shining foliage of the Chinese roses; but they are singularly beautiful, either in beds, *grouped*, or budded on low stocks. Perhaps the Boursault is the best stock to work them on. Amongst the finest will be found

Count de Rambuteau.—I really think this very beautiful variety is handsomer now than during the summer months; the hot weather then appears to bleach the margins of the petals, and they are more *confused*. Its leaves, or properly its petals, shell, or imbricate so nicely; then the growth is compact, and it flowers in such great profusion, that I am sure every one who grows it will say it is a lovely thing.

Then there is

George Cuvier; but George is not so full as the Comte, though the petals are so fine, and the colonr so brilliant, that every one will admire him. What is the colour? A *bright deep pink*, of a peculiar and striking tint. Then the habit is good—in fact George Cuvier will be welcome anywhere.

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Cerese is a pretty thing, excellent in form, and fine rose colour, but it does not appear to flourish well with me, which I think arises from its being worked on the dog rose; the stock appears too strong, too luxuriant for it, as Cerese is of rather dwarf and delicate habit. I must try it either on its own root or on a more congenial stock.

Then how brilliant has L'Enfant d'Ajaccio been this season.

L'Enfant d'Ajaccio, with me, is more robust than either of the preceding, and with good cultivation will make a fine pillar rose. I have it now six feet high, with blooms and abundance of buds. It is a very splendid thing, a fine deep scarlet; but then it is hardly so fine in form as some others.

For instance,

Madame Angelina beats it in this respect; but how beautiful the contrast in colour, the latter being a delicate creamy tint, with petals so stiff that they look like wax. The form is excellent, and in habit rather dwarf. This must be a great favourite.

I do not think much of *Lavinie d'Ost*, or *Madame Lacharme*, which, when they were first introduced to the notice of the floricultural world, I procured from the Continent. I now satisfy myself by purchasing of some respectable nurseryman, who has flowered them previously, in this country. By this means I am comparatively safe, as they will not knowingly send out a variety that is likely to bring discredit on themselves. I must not forget to acknowledge that I obtained from abroad

Souvenir de Malmaison, a flower of the largest size, creamy white, very double, and certainly one of the very best.

Oscar Leclerc is a finely formed variety, flowering very late in the season; a large and fine crimson.

Souchet is a great favourite of mine. The petals are thick and glossy, like velvet; the form also is excellent, and on examining my blooms to-day, I was much struck with their peculiarly rich crimson purple shading and blending into each other, forming one of the richest tints imaginable.

Then there is

Dumont du Courset, another of the rich crimson varieties. This is a very double and attractive sort.

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Perhaps many of your readers grow the

Queen of Bourbons, a delicate buff or fawn-coloured rose. This variety is much more fragrant than many others, and should be grown in every choice collection.

I was going through a nursery ground the other day, and was much struck with *Gloire de Rosamene*. The colour is intense scarlet; but then it is only semidouble; yet I made up my mind, *though it is old*, to add it to my collection. In colour I think it is pre-eminent, and certainly I shall try to raise seedlings from it.

Splendens is of stout growth, and will make a good pillar rose; its foliage is large, and it flowers late in the season; added to which, it is fragrant, a point of great importance at this period of the year. Mine are now in great beauty. The colour is deep rich rose.

The last that I shall allude to, is

Madame Souchet, named after the partner of the raiser of Souchet. Madame is commemorated by a good rose, verifying an observation you made in one of your early numbers. It is unlike most others of this class; for, with all their beauty, there is, from the aptitude in cultivators to swell their catalogue of names, much similarity in some of the varieties. This has fine rose-coloured petals, margined with a darker shade; it is of good shape, and is altogether a beautiful and excellent rose.

The above, from personal, and I may say daily observation, I believe to be some of the best in cultivation—forming at this season a most beautiful and interesting addition to autumnal flowers of other descriptions; and not only have I had the pleasure of watching them through their various stages of growth, but also the gratification arising from the abundance with which they produce their flowers, and their contributing to the enjoyment of many friends, who, from the beauty of my roses, are most anxious to commence their cultivation.

I must reserve a few observations on summer roses till another opportunity, as I find I have already extended this notice almost too far for your pages; still, if these hasty sketches are interesting to your readers, I will resume them at an early period.

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ON JUDGING FLORISTS' FLOWERS,

WITH THE

QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY TO PERFORM THAT OFFICE.

THERE is always a little spark of pride in a man's heart, when he is selected by his brother florists to perform what may either be a pleasant and agreeable office, or a thankless and most disagreeable affair. That some one must undertake the duty, and that plenty will always be found to perform it, we make no doubt; but that they will give satisfaction is about as problematical as the discovery of the north-west passage. We think, however, that all societies should be bound to acquiesce in the decision of the parties (for at all times there should be three judges) whom they have selected for this delicate affair.

It is to be presumed that there has been a preliminary meeting, to select judges, or censors, and that too on a regular meeting-night, or after a special warning-in. At that time, we should suppose, the capabilities of the parties are discussed, and it is the members' own fault if they choose inefficient persons. But as the selection is their own act and deed, they are bound to abide by their decision; and we cannot comprehend, if the members have been careful in their selection of the judges, how they can make any palpably great mistake. We have known many instances where a man has been sent into a room by himself, and after patiently going over the flowers, weighing their respective merits, or demerits, and fairly giving his verdict, he has been abused right and left, charged with partiality, told that he was no florist, and perhaps questioned why he had left his spectacles at home. In these cases, safety would have been found in a multitude of counsellors. We will give a case, where two old and good judges were near making a mistake, when their credit was saved by the third. Old John Hufton, some twenty-five

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years ago, was appointed with another (Mr. Joseph Perry), to judge the carnations at Thurland-hall, in Nottingham, just before that venerable building was demolished. He said he should like a third, and as no one amongst the old growers present seemed inclined to undertake the office, it was proposed, perhaps more in joke than anything else, that we should make up the number. We were then seventeen years of age, and of course very diffident in the matter. We heard the *pros* and *cons* of our companions, but having much veneration for their judgment, we did not hazard an opinion. The scarlet bizarres and crimson had been got through, the scarlet flakes placed, and the rose class was under consideration. We could hear better then than we can now, and not a remark was made that was not treasured up;—we were then *getting our first lesson.* The rose flake which was placed first in this class, was a noble and well-formed flower, and, as John said, there was "e'esight in it." It was stationed accordingly. We had our eyesight about us at the time, and discovered that the calyx was split to the bottom, and tied round with thread. Now we knew that this was a disqualification, but we felt almost afraid to give an opinion contrary to such great authorities as "Old John" and Mr. Perry. However, when they had got through the class, we summoned courage to say, "Mr. Hufton, you are wrong: that flower ought not to be placed first." The old man's answer was "Eh, lad?" apparently not understanding us. When we repeated the assertion, he stared over his spectacles with astonishment; but when we corroborated it, by pointing out the defect, he clapped us on the shoulder, and said, "Good lad. If thou hadn't seën it, we should ha' ben finely called." This will show how essential it is that there should be more than one pair of eyes. However wary or experienced, it is possible to overlook a defect, like my good friend, "Old John," than whom, in his day, a better judge did not exist.

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However, we have been *called* many a time since, whether deservedly or not, we do not venture to say, and have in the main, taken it tolerably quiet; but at the same time, we have felt how unjust and unmanly is such conduct towards those who have, perhaps at much inconvenience, been induced to come amongst strangers, neither knowing the exhibiters nor their flowers, relying on that courtesy which, in cases of this kind, is usually extended, and have had to suffer the coarse remarks and uncharitable observations of some disappointed individuals.

It is very clear to us, that committees must take this matter up, as no man of spirit will stand it for ever.

A man should not only be a good general judge of the properties of flowers, but he should also be what is termed *down*—capable of detecting the unfair tricks which, we are sorry to say, are yet resorted to by unprincipled men. He should, in the twinkling of an eye, be able to tell whether an auricula pip has been stuck with gum water in a calyx which never produced it; or whether a seventh petal has been extracted from a tulip; whether carnation petals have been drawn in with silk, or plugged in with moss or cotton wool, and the other petals dressed over it to hide the cheat. We may here observe, that we knew two parties who quarrelled after the stands were set up, when one, in a passion, upset his own flowers: the scarlet bizarre (Walmsley's William IV.) tumbled to pieces, and on picking the flower from the floor, we found that it had been thus manufactured. Formerly, rough-edged carnations were clipped; but this is not much practised now, as there are so many smooth varieties. Dahlias are occasionally tampered with, and we must relate a barefaced trick, which some of our readers in the neighbourhood may remember, that occurred at Northwich, in Cheshire. We happened to be travelling at the time, and were staying for the day at the

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Angel Inn, where a dahlia show was being held. In the winning stand was a flower of tolerably good form, the colour deep marone, with large spots or blotches of white. Form was not so much thought of then as now. The stand containing the *astonishing novelty*, as it was termed, took the *first prize*. As a matter of course, after the judges had awarded the prizes, we looked on with others who were gathered round this wonderful flower. We fancied that we detected a slight odour of brimstone, and on stooping down to ascertain the fact, we felt a smart pull at our coat behind, with an "Ah, Wood, how are you?" Turning round, we recognized a Manchester florist, since dead. We were, in the first indignation at the cheat we had discovered, about to state our opinion broadly, but perceiving the intention, he put his hand on our mouth, and said, "For goodness sake, be quiet. You are the only one who has discovered it yet, and it is a trick of mine. The judges have awarded the pan the first prize, and you have no business with it;—if you say a word, you expose not only me, but their want of penetration likewise." We saw the force of the argument, and were silent. The flower had been held over the fumes of sulphur, and the colour discharged. We were glad to learn, when we visited the place the succeeding year, that the fraud was discovered, but whether the second stand got the "kettle," or whether *possession* proved nine points of the law, we never ascertained.

We have adduced these cases, because we do not think the world is much better, and it is just possible that parties may *doctor* dahlias, *plug* carnations, or do many other unfair things, and censors not be aware that there is such trickery in existence. But it really is "too bad." Our beautiful flowers ought to teach us better; and true enough is it, that when we try to improve nature, some trick has to be practised. Those who are in the habit of judging, must

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read our observations; they will possibly recollect circumstances of a similar nature, and as we intend to return to the subject again, we shall be happy to have their ideas upon the matter.

GARDEN MEMORANDA.

On the 26th of October, we paid a short visit to the nursery grounds of Messrs. Fisher, Holmes, and Co., of Handsworth, near Sheffield, a first-class provincial establishment. We regret extremely that our time was limited, but as we rapidly passed through, we noted, amongst thousands of good things, several which we think many of our readers will be glad to hear of. The very beautiful *Himalaya Cedar* (Cedrus Deodara) is here grown in countless numbers. Perhaps Lord Harrington may have finer plants, but their specimen, which is about sixteen feet high, is a perfect picture of graceful beauty—a cone of verdure, one of the most beautiful evergreen trees in existence. We like the rigid, bold, stern, and as it were, uncompromising character of its twin brother, the Cedar of Lebanon; but here, if a tree can convey the idea, was the easy, humble, and peculiarly elegant contrast. No avenue ought to be without this really excellent plant: for a lawn, or grass plot, it is unrivalled. As we might naturally suppose, from the thousands raised in this nursery, variety in foliage has resulted, and some seedlings, very distinct in character, have been selected and potted.

Another very similarly drooping tree, the *Thread-branched Arborvitæ* (Thuja filiformis), was here very pretty. Small plants (in pots), not more than two feet or two feet and a half high, had a quantity of seed on them, most likely produced in consequence of the roots being confined.

Berberis cuneata (the Wedge-leaved Barberry) was

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in the style of that really beautiful evergreen the Berberis empetrifolia. To the casual observer, the difference between the two plants, might not be very apparent; nevertheless, to collectors and those who are fond of such things, it will prove acceptable. For rock-work and the front of shrubberies, it will be prized.

Most of our readers know the *Pyracantha*, which, when trained to the front of a house, produces a profusion of beautiful scarlet berries, during winter. Here we saw a species named *Cratægus crenulata* (our readers must recollect that the pyracantha is a sub-evergreen thorn). Our own plant, which is in the open ground, is larger than those we saw here, in pots, but we were gratified to find them in fruit. When grafted standard high, on the thorn, we have no doubt it will prove one of the prettiest evergreen lawn trees in cultivation, its habit being dense, yet at the same time graceful.

Messrs. Fisher and Co. were the purchasers, for twenty pounds, some years ago, from Mr. F. Fox, of Cliff Vale, of a beautiful striped yew, termed *Taxus elegantissima*—a most appropriate name, by the by. This has been most extensively disseminated. We saw much of it here; and were also greatly pleased with a quantity of silver-striped yews, partaking more of the habit of the common sort. These were raised from berries produced by a large plant of the silver-striped variety. It has always been thought that these seedlings would most probably revert to their green or natural colour, but the event has proved otherwise; and we also learn from Mr. Fox, that the greater proportion of seedlings raised by him, come in this beautiful variegated character.

Taxus adpressa, or *brevifolia* (The Short-leaved Yew), originated in the nursery of Messrs. Dickson, of Chester. The plants were small, but we could see enough in its character to prognosticate that it will make a nice variety. *Pinus Webbiana* took our

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fancy. The plant might be some fourteen feet high, and was a fine specimen. For several seasons, during its early growth, it was injured by frost; but as the stem has risen, we were informed, this has not been the case. At all events, it is now growing luxuriantly, and looks like a gigantic specimen of the Silver Fir.

A large collection of hollies is also cultivated here. Amongst those of the most recent addition, and at the same time, most singular, is *Ilex latispina* (The Broad-spined Holly). It is rather smoother in the foliage than the common variety, with the prickles much enlarged; in fact, they look like small leaves springing from the margin of the larger one. We fear the magnificent *Ilex latifolia* will, on exposure, not prove so good as when sheltered. Its large and broad leaves are apt to be broken by the wind, which at times gives the tree a mutilated and ragged appearance.

Though the box is a common shrub, or small tree, yet varieties, either with broad or narrow leaves, striped or blotched, are constantly being brought before the public. The *B. rotundifolia* seems to be a very distinct sort, compact and neat in its habit; and as all this family will flourish in the shade, and where many other things will not, their similarity may in some measure be overlooked, from their adaption to such places. We saw many other things that we could not note at the time, but we particularly admired a beautiful Andromeda floribunda, with its spikes of flowers, just now in bloom; standard cotoneasters, covered with crimson berries, and making a very gay appearance; fine weeping larches, &c. with an immense general stock. In the greenhouse, were many plants of the fine Japan lilies; a neat plant of the Otaheite orange, not more than twelve inches high, and yet covered with a profusion of flowers and fruit. We must not forget a fine collection of junipers and rhododendrons, comprising the choicest sorts in cultivation.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

HARDY PERENNIAL PLANTS.

HOLLYHOCKS.

THAT enthusiastic tulip grower, the late Charles Barron, Esq., of Saffron Walden, in Essex, amongst other flowers which he cultivated, devoted much attention to this good old-fashioned plant. We have had various applications for a list of the best, and as we only grow varieties known in our own neighbourhood, we wrote to a friend who cultivates them extensively, for the names of some of the *very best*, either of his own growing, or that he might have seen during the past summer. We believe there are some splendid sorts in Scotland, which we should be glad to hear somethiug about; and we are sure there are hundreds of our readers who, like ourselves, have a "dreadful longing" for anything "good and new." However, we give our friend's remarks as we received them. He says,

Enchantress (Chater).—I have seen many rose-coloured hollyhocks, but this is decidedly one of the best; the form is good, well filled in the centre, and as for colour, it is a fine lake, or rosy carmine.

Comet, I think you have noticed before. It has been said, and with good truth, to be the best deep red yet raised. I have several seedlings of the same colour, but then they are not so double, neither are the spikes so large. I had intended naming my seedlings, but as Comet is a decided beat on them, I shall plant them out for decoration only. I am much averse to sending out a variety which is inferior to those already before the public.

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Pulchella is a really beautiful thing; the petals are thick, and the form *nearly* up to the mark; it is much lighter than Enchantress, and though perhaps not so striking in colour, it will, however, have many admirers in those who are fond of delicate tints.

Mr. C. Barron.—A nice sort to commemorate so good and kind-hearted a man. I scarcely know what to call the tint; it is hardly salmon colour, being several shades approaching pink; it is, however, of good form, and out of the common way.

Royal Standard.—This I believe to be of Scotch origin. It is what I should term *anemone-flowered.* It is of a deep and striking yellow. The leaves of the plant are much divided, and the flowers are produced close together, forming a dense and brilliant spike. I have not been successful with it, as it appears to be of rather delicate constitution.

Bicolor.—This is a double flower, similar in form to Royal Standard. Orange, deeply shaded with reddish bronze, spikes long, a singular, but at the same time, an attractive sort.

In white varieties, there are few better than your *Belladonna*, which I have flowered most splendidly this season.

THE RUSSIAN SUPERB VIOLET.—About the middle of last month, we received from Mr. Shackle, of Bath, a most beautiful bouquet of this excellent violet. It is a seedling, raised by him, from the old variety, which it much surpasses in size, both of flowers and foliage; it is very fragrant, and a great and decided acquisition. We learn that Mr. S. cultivates two acres of violets, to supply the Bath and Bristol markets. We think that many of our readers would, at this season, be glad, at certain periods, of such a bouquet as we received. We do not know what the charge might be, but they can easily communicate with Mr. S.

YUCCA FILAMENTOSA VARIEGATA. *(The Variegated Adam's Needle.)*—This is usually termed an herbaceous plant, though some of the tribe have a woody stem. We do not recollect to have seen this variety in many places, but it ought to be in every collection.

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The leaves are striped with yellow, having at the same time the threadlike appendages to the margin; the flowers rise on stalks from eighteen inches to two feet, and are composed of many pendent white bells. All the family are pretty, but this is peculiarly interesting.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

Amongst many new geraniums sending out this season, there is a pretty rose-coloured seedling, raised, I think, by Mr. Gregory, called *Lucia rosea compacta*, bearing the same comparison to the old Lucia rosea as the scarlet Tom Thumb does to the Shrubland. It is a delicate and beautiful variety, adapted for bedding out, as well as for pot-culture.

In fuchsias, the following will be found acquisitions, They are new and good.

Model.—A French variety, raised by Mielliez. The flowers are large, the tube a delicate blush, whilst the centre, or corolla, is orange red.

Elizabeth (Kendall).—A very beautiful and showy sort. The blossoms are individually large, and produced in abundance; tube light pink, with a deep crimson corolla.

Spectabilis (Veitch).—A splendid sort, from Peru. This will be a fine thing to impregnate others with, or to cross, for the sake of novelties. The flowers are very large, and deep crimson.

Chateaubriand (Mielliez).—A novel variety, the flowers of fine size. The tube is rose, the end of the sepals being tinged with a yellowish cast; the corolla is bright orange.

HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS.

Euonymus Variegata Nova.—A very beautiful small-growing variegated Spindle Tree. The leaves are strongly blotched with white. A very distinct and pretty shrub.

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CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA.—A stout-growing and hardy evergreen, very likely, from its graceful form, to become a favourite with planters. It is more diffuse in its habit than the Italian Cypress, though not of so pleasing a colour as that plant.

EUONYMUS CRUS. GALLIFORMIS.—A singular monstrosity, which appears to be perpetuated in the young plants, the stems enlarging, and assuming a flattened appearance, with tufts of leaves on the top, and bearing some similarity to the Cockscomb of the gardens. It is a dwarf evergreen shrub.

The following are two decidedly good evergreen honeysuckles:—

Lonicera Magnevillii, added to a more compact growth than the old Evergreen, has well-formed and beautiful deep green foliage. The flowers are somewhat similar to the old variety, creamy white. It is of most excellent habit.

Lonicera Hybrida Superbum has rather darker and narrower leaves than the preceding. It is of excellent growth. Our plants have been in bloom all the summer, and are at the present time (November 5) flowering as strongly and abundantly as ever. The flowers are light, and very fragrant.

VEGETABLES.

THERE appears to be some fine sorts of celery at Leeds and the neighbourhood. We have the following observations from an esteemed correspondent:—

"LEE'S SALMON CELERY.—A remarkably solid and quick grower, blanching in the short space of fourteen days, whereas Nutt's Champion, a Sheffield variety, takes about seven weeks. At the grand show, held at the house of Mr. Beecroft, Buffalo Inn, Bank, Leeds, the first-named sort, exhibited by Mr. I. Lee, took the first prize in the red class; the second was won by Mr. R. Howard, with Jackson's

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Old Bot; and the third by Mr. J. Asquith, with Nutt's Champion. In white celery, Johnny Lumb's White, shown by Mr. I. Lee, was first; and Seymour's White, by I. Kitchen, second, and by I. Bailey, third. The varieties named Old Bot, Lumb's White, and Salmon, are known only in Leeds and the neighbourhood."

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

CARNATION.

Rev. J. Bramhall.—A fine purple flake. This variety was sent to us by that veteran florist, Mr. Clarke, of Litchfield. The white is good, the ribboning broad and distinct, and the flower large. It was raised from Brabbin's 'Squire Meynell, and possesses in an eminent degree the good qualities of that fine flower.

PICOTEES.

Marris's Unexpected.—A heavy-edged rosy lilac picotee, novel in colour, with a very finely-formed petal. This was raised from Wood's Princess Alice, and though perhaps scarcely showable in any class, as classes are at present constituted, yet, from its attractive features, it will have many admirers.

Turner's Duchess of Sutherland.—A very large and splendid flower, one of the gems of the season. The petals are broad, thick, and well formed; the white ground colour is remarkably pure; the lace, or edge, neat, and well laid on, wholly free from bar or speck of any kind. One of the best light-edged red picotees submitted to us this season.

TULIP.

Jersey Wonder.—Amongst many tulips sent, perhaps this is the best byblœmen we have seen. Fine cup, and of great purity, with even and black feather. We believe it broke from one of Clarke's breeders. We never saw Fanny Kemble, but from the description, we think it probable that it may be broken from the same breeder. Be that as it may, we fear many a florist will have to "sigh in vain," for some years; for after having seen the Jersey Wonder, we should *wonder* if they did not.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE GLADIOLUS, WITH REMARKS ON ITS CULTURE.

BY MR. S. BROWN, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

THE genus Gladiolus now comprehends many brilliant species and varieties, and is fast increasing in interest with the floral world. The variety of colours, together with the beauty of its varied stripes and markings, and its graceful habit, recommend it as well worthy the attention of the florist or amateur. Like most bulbous plants, gladioli thrive and flower with less care than most florists' flowers. Being comprised of early and late kinds, they blossom at various seasons of the year: the earliest sorts commence flowering in June, when planted in the open air, and many of the late kinds continue in blossom up to the very approach of winter. They are perfectly hardy, and may be grown in any common garden soil not retentive of moisture; but should the soil be heavy where they are intended to be planted, it should be removed to a depth of about two feet, and replaced by a light rich soil, composed of a sandy loam and leaf mould, or sandy loam and peat, allowing six or nine inches for the drainage.

The early varieties, which flower in June and July, are best planted in October and November; the later sorts may be put in from November to January or February, and the varieties of Floribundus and Gandavensis from January to March.

The Colvillii kinds come very early into flower; they are of taller growth than others of the early sorts, and are of erect slender habit. They include Colvillii, Colvillii blandus, Colvillii superbus, odoratus, tristis, and others. They are succeeded by a more numerous class, which generally commence flowering about two weeks later; the latter are composed of

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varieties varying from a foot to a foot and a half in height; they comprise great diversity of colours. Of these, the following are very beautiful and showy:—

Albus.—Striped with bright pink, on a clear white ground, and having lemon spots.
Curviflorus.—Rose-colour, with white and lemon stripes.
Dobrii.—A fine rich crimson scarlet.
Herbertii.—Deep rose, with white and crimson stripes.
Habranthus Robustus.—Fleshy pink, with white and crimson stripes.
Insignis.—A very large-flowering variety, of rich rose-colour.
Loddigesii.—A fine deep pink, striped with crimson and white.
Minerva.—Beautiful deep rosy red, striped with white, and continues to flower longer than most of the early kinds.
Rex Rubrorum.—A new variety, of a rich dark colour, with beautifully expanding petals and fine-shaped flower.
Venus.—Delicate cream-colour, beautifully marked with pink.

The following varieties are later, and mostly commence flowering about the end of July, or in August; they are of stronger habit than the preceding kinds, and exceedingly rich, though not so varied in their colours as the earlier sorts. They produce a longer succession of flowers; many of them throw up lateral spikes of bloom to the latest period of autumn; and vigorous plants, lifted and potted, continue to bloom during the winter. Of the above description are,

Prince of Wales.—A very splendid variety, of a rich scarlet-colour.
Queen Victoria.—Rich scarlet and crimson.
Speciosus.—Fine scarlet, striped with white.
Vittellinus.—Bright rosy scarlet, with white stripes.
Formosissimus.—Rich crimson, striped with white.
Ramosus.—Shaded rose, large and fine.
Robin Hood.—Clear pink, with white stripes.
Rosa Mundi.—Rose, striped with white, and having a purple shade.

The varieties of Florabundus, Gandavensis, and other late tall-growing sorts, chiefly come later into flower than most of the above. Of these, Splendens is a very noble variety, of a rich orange scarlet, with much larger flowers than Gandavensis. Psittacinus sanguineus is a dark one. Brenchleyensis is another splendid addition to this class.

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For pot-culture, the gladiolus is very suitable, making a beautiful show among other plants, in the greenhouse or conservatory, and, where a large collection is kept, some may be had in flower nearly all the year round. In potting, the roots should not be cramped; they require a fair portion of pot-room. Sandy loam and peat, or leaf-mould, or any light rich soil, the pots being well drained, suits them well. When first planted, as is the case with most other bulbs, they will not bear forcing; they should be allowed to progress gradually, by placing them in a cool frame or pit, and keeping the soil in a tolerably dry state, till they have made considerable growth; after which, they may be brought into the greenhouse, or where they are required to flower. They make fine specimens when planted several bulbs in a pot.

This lovely tribe of plants opens a wide field for the hybridist, and the amateur would find it an interesting engagement, in which his skill and time would be richly rewarded. In endeavouring to obtain crosses, the choice should not only be directed to the colour and size of the flowers, but chiefly to their expanding habit and breadth of petals; for although there are many fine sorts which do not possess each of these latter qualities, yet they should be the points to be aimed at in our progress towards the improvement of the tribe. Seedlings of the early varieties usually flower the second summer after sowing, and the later varieties the third.

The Florist.

PRUNING APPLE TREES.

PRUNING has the power of increasing the vigour of a tree in two ways. If we assume that a certain amount of nourishment is supplied by the roots to all the branches and buds of a tree, by cutting off one-half of the branches, at the proper season, we direct

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the whole supply of nourishment to the remaining portion, which will grow with nearly double their former luxuriance. Again, when a tree becomes stunted or enfeebled in its growth, the thinness of its inner bark, with its consequent small sap vessels (which, it must be remembered, are the principal channel for the supply of food), renders the upward and downward circulation tardy, and the growth is small. By heading back, or pruning judiciously, all the force of the nourishing fluid is thrown into a smaller number of buds, which make new and luxuriant shoots, and larger sap vessels, which afford a ready passage to the fluids, and the tree, with these renewed energies, will continue in vigour a long time.

This treatment is especially valuable in the case of small trees of feeble or stunted growth, which are frequently cut back to a single bud, and a new shoot or shoots, full of vigour, gives a healthy habit to the tree. In the nurseries, this practice of heading down unthrifty trees is frequently pursued, and small orchard trees, which have become enfeebled, may be treated in the same manner, cutting back the head as far as the place where it is wished that new shoots should spring out. Older trees should be headed back more sparingly, unless they are greatly enfeebled, and their roots should at the same time be assisted by manure.

A judicious pruning, to modify the form of our standard trees is nearly all that is required in ordinary practice. *Every fruit tree grown in the open orchard or garden, as a common standard, should be allowed to take its natural form, the whole efforts of the pruner going no further than to take out all weak and crowded branches,*—those which are filling uselessly the interior of the tree, where their leaves cannot be duly exposed to the sun; or those which interfere with the growth of others. All pruning of large branches, in healthy trees, should be avoided, by examining them every season, and taking out superfluous shoots, while small. Mr. Coxe, the best

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American author on fruit trees, remarks very truly, "when orchard trees are much pruned, they are apt to throw out numerous (superfluous) suckers from the boughs, the following summer. These should be rubbed off when they first appear, or they may be easily broken off, while young and brittle—cutting is apt to increase their number."

Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.

ON THE TREATMENT OF WINDOW PLANTS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

ALTHOUGH indoor gardening loses much of its interest in summer, when nature is so prodigal of her beauties in the open air, still the amateur will find great pleasure in adorning his window with his choicest productions. Nothing can have a finer effect in a drawing-room, or sitting-room, than a flower bloomed well in a pot, and tastefully trained; and windows filled with pelargoniums, fuchsias, &c. To keep up a succession of flowering plants, requires some forethought, and many are discouraged by apparent difficulties. I hope, by a few plain rules, to assist those who garden on a small scale, and have no greenhouse, in the art of securing a succession of handsome flowers, so that the charm which a household Flora possesses may be their own.

Presuming that you have a frame, and that your stock of plants have been re-potted, you will now be in the midst of your prosperity, and making a display of your riches. The bulbs are all laid to rest for the season; the early roses, &c. which succeeded the bulbs, will have done flowering, and should be replaced by pelargoniums, fuchsias, and other plants. Let every pot be kept in the frame until the bloom is ready to expand, that the full benefit of light and heat may be secured, and then remove it to the window. When there, it should be moderately

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watered. It is astonishing to the inexperienced how small a quantity of water will keep a plant in good health. I have some pelargoniums in sixty-sized pots, in a window fully exposed to the sun, and I find watering once a day quite sufficient, and even then I take care that none stands in the saucers. But to do this it is requisite that the pots should be kept as much as possible from the solar rays, which may be accomplished by opening the window, so that the thick lower frame of the sash may intercept the light, and thus keep the pots cool. If pots are placed outside the window, which is often done with good effect, they may be advantageously put into other pots of a larger size, by which a current of air will be secured all round them, and a lower temperature maintained. Any little contrivances of this description will be useful, for frequent waterings have many evils: amongst others, the soil is rendered too compact, and the most valuable portions are quickly washed from it.

The most scrupulous cleanliness must be observed with window plants, or their health will soon suffer. All decaying leaves should be removed as they appear, and no flowers should be allowed to die upon the stalk. By removing flowers as soon as their beauty is impaired, neatness and beauty are consulted. But this is not all; by stopping the tendency to mature seed, more flowers will often be produced. Mignonette, in pots, soon becomes shabby, if this rule is neglected; but by picking off every spike of flowers when it is elongated and bare, laterals will quickly reward your pains, and keep up an air of healthfulness. It is scarcely necessary to prescribe an abundance of fresh air, as it is presumed that few persons would in summer sit with closed windows, unless the dust of a high road were playing its pranks near them.

Having pots in your frame for a succession, remove your plants from the house, as soon as the bloom is over. Some sorts may be cut down, and with care

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will flower again. Perhaps the warmth of the season may bring many forward at once: in that case pinch out the bloom of some of them, and you will have the benefit later in the year. Scarlet pelargoniums are very valuable in this kind of window gardening. I find small pots do best, producing least foliage and most flower. Fuchsias also amply pay the grower for window culture. By a little forethought and daily attention, the window, even without a balcony, may be made very attractive, until frosts appear again, and our now dormant bulbs again demand and repay our care.

Gardener's Chronicle.

THE VALUE OF A WEED.

BY ALEXANDER FORSYTH, ALTON TOWERS.

FEW persons seem to be aware of the value of some of our native plants; in fact, it is considered by some cultivators belonging to the old school, as a sign of a frivolous disposition in a young gardener, when they see him studying the Flora of his own country, and admiring the beautiful structures of wild flowers; or, as these venerable worthies would term them, weeds; and would even qualify the term weed, by adding, in the case of the plant which I am about to praise, an adjective in the superlative degree, such as a most vile, a most troublesome weed. Be it so then. But since the plant is a Briton like ourselves, let us at least state both sides of the question fairly, and acquit or condemn it after a patient hearing.

Now I would beg it to be borne in mind that the mere fact of a thing being common, or accounted troublesome, or even nauseous, and that for ages, and in the opinion of many, is still no proof of its worthlessness, although we may be unacquainted with its value. The valuable mineral substance, cobalt, was accounted a very troublesome article to

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the miner. The article, bone, now so valuable as a manure, was, in my own recollection, allowed to whiten on the lone heath, as a thing unworthy of notice. The richest portion of our manures are often, even in our enlightened and manure-hunting day, allowed to waste their fertilizing properties on a hole in the earth, or what is worse, on the air that we breathe. These examples might teach us to give common, troublesome, and even nauseous articles a patient trial, before we condemn them as worthless; and ought to humble us, when we see blessings of no mean order showered upon us, and as it were dogging us through life, without our knowing their value, or being able to turn their useful properties to account, notwithstanding our boasted knowledge. Hoping therefore, now, for an impartial verdict, I beg to introduce to your notice a truly British plant, of great beauty and known value; and moreover of the easiest culture, yea, even to be obtained, for the plucking up of this plant is sometimes a matter of deep consideration, for it has deep and cross-laid fangs in the earth, and the best of it being underground, it requires a strong spud to dislodge the treasure.

The beautiful name, Dandelion (*Leontodon taraxacum*—Lion's tooth), would indicate something of a tearing fellow among weeds, a sort of freebooter, after the fashion of Robin Hood, or Donald Caird, and such is really the case, for Dandelion picks his time, and chooses always the best of everything that he requires—he never opens a flower in foul weather, nor even in fair weather, unless the sun shines; but this is not all, for he not only chooses the best hours of sunshine to flower in, but (robber that he is) makes free to ride in his airy car over hedge and wall, into the choicest sheltered nook of the amateur's tulip bed, or the nobleman's walled garden; for his seeds have a mane like a shuttlecock, and the wind that carries them only allows them to rest in some region of settled calm, which is precisely what this

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uncultivated child of Flora wanted, namely, a sheltered situation, where he might establish himself. I observed, one beautiful sunny evening, a silvery speck slowly lowering itself into a most sheltered compartment of the garden; it was followed soon after by another, and shortly after by a shower of rain. The dry seed of the dandelion had thus winged their way, and were now planted, watered, and sheltered, without the aid of a team to transport their grain, or the skill and labour of an officious man, to assign them a smooth bed and a suitable locality. "But," says my old friend, "what, after all, will you make of such a weed? What use can it be turned to? For it will neither yield bread-corn for a man, nor good provender for a beast. Horses will eat gorse, and asses will eat thistles, but I never knew dandelion relished by any animal." Very true; and so fully am I convinced of the truth of this, that I would not have risked my reputation as a gardener, or even as a man endowed with common sense, to recommend dandelion in any shape to man or beast, were I not supported by some whose reputation and character are already established. I therefore state at once, that I cultivate dandelion side by side with other crops, planted in rows, like any other culinary article. Extract of dandelion has long been known in medicine as a diuretic. The herbage of the dandelion is well known in gardening as a beautiful and delicate blanched salad. But besides these uses, the root is capable of producing, when roasted, a beverage equal to coffee, and actually sells at a much higher rate. Might not some of the many hard-earned shillings of labouring men, that go to purchase coffee, be saved, and dandelion be drunk in its stead. The trial of the experiment would do good, since the collecting of the roots from waste ground and weedy gardens would improve the land; and the cleaning, drying, and roasting of the roots are processes simple enough. In regard of

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taste or flavour, let it be borne in mind, that the tastes of coffee, porter, tobacco, &c. are all acquired tastes; and I should think that those who have persevered to acquire the habit of using tobacco in any form, need not feel very squeamish about trying the thrifty use of dandelion. Now, although succory, or chiccory, may be more profitably cultivated than dandelion, as a substitute for coffee (and is really cultivated extensively, in Europe, for this purpose), the mere fact of the one requiring culture whilst the other is to be had gratis, gives dandelion the preference. In conclusion then, let me entreat cultivators to give it a trial; large plants fit for use may be obtained ready for roasting. April is the time to make a plantation of the smaller roots, and if the flowers are picked off, the roots will soon attain a large size. Seeds may also be sown, and seedsmen might take notice to provide themselves with a supply of seed, as it is just possible that it may be wanted, notwithstanding all the foul names by which it has been called, and all the pains we have hitherto been at to extirpate it.

I see no reason why the roots of endive and lettuce, so nearly allied to chiccory and dandelion, should not join to make a substitute for the expensive and exotic coffee-berry; and should this be the case, the scarce and little-known article, salad, so rare among cottagers, might be obtained by blanching the leaves, thereby securing much wholesome food to every poor family. Endive would come in as a crop after potatoes, and lettuce will produce a greater weight of eatable vegetable than any plant with which I am acquainted; three or four good-sized plants will grow on a square foot of ground, and come to maturity in six or eight weeks; then by allowing three or four crops annually from the same land—but I have not the leisure now to enter upon the subject of salad herbs, but would beg of your able practical correspondents to come forward with plain directions as to

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the best articles for a supply of salad for poor people, thereby enabling many to augment their resources. The love of salad in some shape or other, seems to be natural, and even necessary, to the rudest portion of the community. Witness the Highlander of Scotland greedily eating the seaweed dulse, which the fish-carriers bring inland, in sacks, and find a ready sale for; to such a people the introduction of salad herbs would be a boon indeed, and as for land to cultivate, I never heard a highland man complain for any lack of that.

Gardener's Chronicle.

THE MAGGOT IN ONIONS.

[*From the Gardener's Chronicle.*]

THE ravages of this pest to the onion tribe have become very serious. Last year I totally lost a crop by them, and this year I have seen many crops seriously injured, and in some instances quite destroyed; and as I have tried an experiment or two, and have succeeded in obtaining a promising crop, I beg leave, through your pages, to detail the means I have used. A plot of ground, intended for onions, was well manured with rotten stable dung, and thrown up in ridges, to be mellowed by the winter frosts. At the proper season for sowing the seed, I had the ridges levelled, and the plot divided into three parts; one part was covered with wood ashes, another with soot, and the third was left as it was. The seed was then sown in drills, it came up very well, and for a time they all appeared to thrive alike. That part sown with soot, however, soon took the lead; the wood ashes were next; but the part that was dunged only began to show symptoms of maggots, and is now a failure. There were a few

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maggots amongst the wood ashes, but not one amongst the soot. Now as soot can be more easily obtained than wood ashes, and as I have proved its efficacy, I trust that many of your readers, who may have suffered from this insect, will be induced to give it a trial.

T. APPLEBY.

THE STRUCTURE OF FLOWERS.

NOTHING more beautifully demonstrates the mysteries of nature, or rather the Almighty Creator of nature, than the fact, that plants, as well as animals, are possessed of the means of reproducing and continuing their species. The pistil, which occupies the centre of the flower, is destined to produce the seeds, while the stamens of the plant contain the dust necessary for fertilizing them, and without which the seeds would not produce young plants. Nature has guarded with nice care this precious dust, for on its preservation depends the continuance of the species. The apparatus with which, in many flowers, it is defended, is very curious; nor are the means which are provided, by which it comes in contact with the stigma of the pistil, less demonstrative of a great, a wise, and a beneficent providence. In some plants, where the organs are in the same flower, the stamens are placed above the stigma, upon which the dust or pollen falls by its own gravity; in others, we find the contrary to be the case, the pistil being the longest, but here the flower is generally drooping. To assist the emission of the pollen, and its contact with the stigma, in many plants, the stamens possess a very apparent moving power. When ripe, the ten stamens of the rice are seen alternately to bend down upon the stigma, deposit their portion of pollen, and return to their former position.

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CONSERVATORY CLIMBERS.—If the conservatory is a nice light constructed building, what will be more in character, and what will have a more graceful effect, than beautiful streaming festoons of free-flowering climbers? Those that I would recommend for their freeness of flower, and being least subject to the attacks of insects, are the following:—

Plumbago Capensis.—A very pretty plant, though much neglected. I have had it in flower from April to November, by cutting back some of the strongest shoots during summer.

Passiflora Racemosa will flower freely in the conservatory nearly all the year. This plant does best when grafted upon one of the hardier sorts.

Tecoma Jasminoides is a very free flowerer upon the young wood, from July to the end of October.

Echites Suberecta.—This beautiful yellow-flowering plant has generally been treated as a stove plant, but I have found it answer well for the conservatory, by spur-pruning, like the vine. It is a very strong grower.

Mandevilla Suaveolens.—This has white flowers, most deliciously fragrant.

Ipomœa Horsfalliæ I have seen very fine.

Combretum Purpureum will flower all summer, by stopping the strongest shoots occasionally.

Stephanotis Florabunda makes a splendid thing when planted out in the conservatory border, and grows very fast.

A.

I have raised the Aldborough Kidney and several other kinds of second early and late potatoes afresh, and find them generally to withstand the disease far better than any of the old raised sorts, in any season, with the same treatment; and I feel confident that if everybody would raise new sorts, by sowing the seed from the potato bell, the disease would soon disappear.—H. B. BRYAN, *Sutton-in-Ashfield.*

TO KEEP MICE FROM PEAS.—Having tried a number of plans for preventing mice from destroying winter-sown peas, I have found none so effectual as the following:—Steep the peas a short time in salad oil, and then dust them all over with rosin, ground to a fine powder, and sow them immediately after.—ALIQUIS.—*Gardener's Chronicle.*

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THE BEST SEASON FOR PRUNING APPLE TREES, TO PROMOTE GROWTH.—The best time to perform this operation is autumn, soon after the fall of the leaf. Next to this, winter pruning, performed in mild weather, is best; and in orchards, this is the season usually most convenient. In all parts of the country where the winters are not very severe, the roots are collecting a certain stock of nourishment during the whole autumn and winter. When a tree is pruned in autumn or winter, this whole supply goes to the remaining branches, while in the case of spring pruning it is partly lost. We should especially avoid pruning at that period in spring when the buds are swelling, and the sap is in full flow, as the loss of sap, by bleeding, is very injurious to most trees, and in some brings on a serious and incurable canker in the limbs.—*Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.*

Part III.

QUERIES.

TRAY OF TWENTY-FOUR PANSIES.

Blooming Girl	Seedling, creamy yellow	Pizarro
Orestes	Optimus	Miss Edwards
Jean d'Arc	Mrs. Harcourt	Potentate
Seedling, yellow ground, with large marone belt	Lucy Neal	Duke of Norfolk
	Aurora	Bridesmaid
Rainbow	D'Israeli	Constellation
Milton	Climax	Almanzar
Youell's Supreme	Duchess of Rutland	Marchss. of Lothian
		Satirist

TRAY OF TWELVE PANSIES.

D'Israeli	Youell's Supreme	Mrs. Bragg
Aurora	Smut	Rainbow
Zabdi	Duke of Norfolk	Orestes
Caroline	Duchess of Rutland	Marchss. of Lothian

The above two trays of pansies were exhibited at the York September show, and each took the first prize. The judges admitted the flowers were good, but were of opinion the trays contained too many dark "SELF" flowers. Your opinion on

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the subject will not only be of use to judges, at exhibitions, but also to myself and other exhibiters. The flowers were arranged as classed above.

Darlington. C. M.

I should esteem it a favour if, in your next number, you would give a recipe for the destruction of worms on a grass lawn. Also the best method of pruning the yellow and white Banksia roses, to procure abundance of bloom. I have them out of doors, on a southern aspect. The yellow is about fourteen feet high, and very healthy; the white is not so large, and appears also to be quite healthy; but neither of them produce more than about half-a-dozen blooms in the season.

GEORGIUS.

I have seen in the *Midland Florist*, in two different places, something about the law of gardens, but nothing applicable to my case, which is this:—I am sub-tenant for two gardens (about a rood and a quarter altogether), and made an agreement with the person of whom I took the gardens, that I should erect a small forcing pit, or greenhouse, to be heated by a flue, and that, should I leave, I should have the liberty of taking away the said pit, or greenhouse, without let or hindrance. I accordingly set a person to work, and the lights were made, but not feeling quite satisfied, I wrote to the owner, to ask his permission, assuring him that I would not in the least injure his property. The answer was, that if Mr. Clarke (the tenant) had no objection, he had none, to putting it up, but he would not consent to my taking it down again; so that now I am in what you may call a "fix." Not being very learned in the law, and having been a subscriber to your very useful work, for the last two years, I have determined to ask your advice. H. A.

[Our correspondent cannot legally remove the brickwork. The woodwork and lights can be taken away.]

Pray do you know anything of Fox's King Alfred rhubarb? Is it worth getting?

[We consider it a very good sort.]

Please state in your next, whether the Jasminum bignonacea (noticed in the October number) has white or yellow flowers? and if the foliage be as large and handsome as that of J. revolutum? No doubt it will be sufficiently hardy for the south side of a dwelling-house, for which I want some such choice evergreen climber. F. OF Y.

[Jasminum bignonacea is a variety of the White Jasmine, from the Continent, with large and well marked foliage.]

Have you for sale, young plants of the vine Muscat de Fontainbleau? It seems not to be known here. F. OF Y.

[Mr. Rivers, of Sawbridgeworth, Herts, can supply it.]

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I shall be very much obliged if you will, in the next number, give the names of the best sorts of celery, as I am desirous of growing it for exhibition. Also, please to inform me where I can purchase the Fastolff red raspberry. A SUBSCRIBER.

[We have plenty of the Fastolff raspberry, at 3s. per dozen. The other query will be answered in our next.]

Please say in your next if you have the honeysuckle called Lonicera Sheppardii, or where I could purchase a young plant, or half-a-dozen cuttings, and at what cost. I want to cross it with the Red Roman.

[We have Lonicera Sheppardii, and could send a small plant (post-free) for 1s.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DISEASED APPLE TREES.—In reply to "A Subscriber," I beg to say, that I have had several trees in my orchard with similar symptoms—the points of the shoots decaying, branches dying, &c. I examined the subsoil, and found it to be retentive of wet—a sour kind of clay. I immediately concluded that it was necessary to stay the roots from penetrating a soil which was evidently of a noxious character. I excavated the soil round the stems, so as to cut through the roots at the distance of a yard from the boles, and then filled up the excavations with sandy loam. I also cut out all branches having a diseased appearance, and gave the stems a good scraping, and then dressed them with soft soap, applied with a whitewash brush, from a bucket. The consequence was, the succeeding year my trees made strong and healthy wood, and for several years past, I have been rewarded with an average crop of fruit. I have no doubt that if your "subscriber," or any other "subscriber," in a similar situation, will try my plan, he will be satisfied of its efficacy.

JAMES HAYS.

THE DISCOLOURATION OF GRAPES, &c. as stated by W. B., is, in my opinion, the result of an overdose of manure. This is apparent from the fruit on the vine, with an ordinary dressing, running out of No. 3, being of its usual colour, whilst that of the vines which had the extra dressing of guano was spoilt. Give brandy, or any other strong drink, to children, and what is the consequence? Though the vine may be a coarse feeder, still it is very possible to overdo it, and I have no doubt the failure is attributable to the excess alluded to.

H. S. M.

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR DECEMBER.

GREENHOUSE.

Chrysanthemums will now be in full bloom. They will require a very liberal supply of water, which should be given in the morning; after which, the lights should be drawn down during the middle of the day, provided the weather is not boisterous and wet.

The same treatment may be adopted with the generality of greenhouse plants, as they will be all the better for being *brought up hardy*. *Hyacinths* in pots will require attention. We strongly recommend these bulbs to be grown in moss; they can then be watered with liquid manure, if requisite.

Green fly will occasionally appear; by giving a fumigation once in six weeks, these pests will be effectually kept down. We need not urge on our readers the propriety of keeping all plants scrupulously free from decayed leaves. The surface soil should be gently moved, whenever it appears in any way bound.

Cinerarias will be moving, and for early spring bloom few things are so beautiful. We have given the names of some very fine sorts, in the present volume. They must be kept very clean, and when they show the truss of flowers, liquid manure may be advantageously applied.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

All the amateur will have to attend to now is regular and unremitting care—watering, protecting, destroying insects in mild weather, &c. His *dahlia roots* are out of the ground, and his *tulips* in; neither requiring much attention. The *ranunculus bed* perhaps will require to be turned. We recollect an old florist who put a quantity of *night soil* on his bed, and as a public footpath went on two sides of his garden, he perpetrated a great nuisance, as Emmerton did with his *goose dung* for *auriculas*. The night soil was exposed to the rains of autumn, and its enriching properties washed into the bed. The succeeding year he had a splendid bloom; but, alas! at the expense of his roots; for the next season nine-tenths of them perished. We therefore would not advise such strong applications.

Keep *carnations* and *picotees* rather dry than otherwise. Abundance of air and cleanliness is indispensable. Move no more. In fact, if any one were offered a quantity of layers, we would advise him to decline the proposed present, till spring.

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Pansies and *pinks* will also require but little care. Small pieces of the spray or branches of the spruce fir may be stuck in the beds, between the rows, which will allow a free circulation, and at the same time protect the plants from severe and cutting winds. If any *pansy* have made a single shoot, without young ones from the lower part of the stem, it should be pegged down, or it will most likely be twisted off in rough weather.

Auriculas and *polyanthuses* are completely dormant. If in pots, they should be kept moderately dry. Seedlings of both may be preserved in frames, keeping them from much wet.

MIXED FLOWER GARDEN.

Bulbs for spring blooming, such as *crocusses, snowdrops, narcissuses, early tulips*, &c. ought to be planted immediately, if delayed till this period. Much attention must be directed to neatness. Dead stems of *phloxes* and other *perennials* must be removed, everything cut back which requires it, the beds lightly forked over, and all things made to look as well as the season will allow. Where possible, it will be a good plan to plunge *evergreens* in pots on the borders. This will relieve the nakedness of the beds during the winter season. Little else can be done, except mending *box edgings*, forming fresh beds, or making any alteration which may be required.

Transplanting *deciduous shrubs, evergreens, roses*, &c. may now be safely performed, whilst the weather is mild.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Pruning *plums, pears*, &c. may be proceeded with. Nail the trees, whenever the weather will permit. Use fresh shreds on all occasions. Root-prune *pyramidal trees*, and add fresh soil where required. We intend, this autumn, to plant several rows of trees across a field, one hundred yards over. We want a shelter, and if fruit trees were not planted we should set hornbeam; but we think pyramidal fruit trees will answer all the purpose, if put near enough together, and we shall get occasional crops of fruit. When they nearly touch, we will root-prune them, to keep them the size we want.

Prune *currants, gooseberries*, &c.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

Manure and dig all vacant ground, throwing it up in ridges, to benefit by frost, &c. Cover *sea-kale* and *rhubarb* with pots. Leaves are a capital thing to cover with; the heat is gentle, and the fermentation sweet. Draw the soil up to the stems of *early cabbage*. Protect *cauliflower plants* and *lettuce*. *Early peas*, as Ringwood Marrows, Warwicks, &c. should be sown, rubbing them with powdered rosin, to preserve them from the attacks of mice.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

NORTHAMPTON FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Had its carnation and picotee show, on Monday, July 30. This was, without exception, the best exhibition of those beautiful flowers that was ever held in Northampton; and the number of visiters, and the interest taken by them in inspecting the blooms, was a gratifying proof that Flora has lost none of her votaries in that town. All the stands were well contested, and to award the various prizes, proved no sinecure ro the judges, Mr. Barringer, of Bedford; Mr. Barber, of Billing; and Mr. Brinklow, of Cranfield. A few very fine dahlias were exhibited, and were much admired. The fruit and vegetables were very fine, and came in for a fair share of admiration. There were three very handsome model gardens exhibited, which added much to the attraction of the show. The prizes were awarded as follows:—

Twelve Carnations.—1. Mr. Martin, for Splendid, Don John, True Briton, Duke of Roxburgh, Paul Pry, Bobert Burns, Earl of Litchfield, Patriot, Beauty of Woodhouse, Miss Thornton, Martha, and Queen Victoria. 2. Mr. Holliday, for Seedling No. 15, Prince Albert, Thomas Hewlett, Leader, Lord Rancliffe, Admiral Curzon, Seedling No. 67, Ariel, Beauty of Woodhouse, 'Squire Meynell, Captain Arnold, and Seedling No. 1. 3. Mr. Hill.

Six Carnations.—1. Mr. Hill, for Lord Rancliffe, Eliza, William IV., Splendid, Princess Charlotte, and Lord Milton. 2. Mr. Martin.

Twelve Picotees.—1. Mr. Holliday, for Mr. Traher, Serana, Princess Royal, Mrs. Bevan, Seedling No. 1, Marchioness of Exeter, Delicata, King James, Juliet, Pride of the Village, Amy, and Queen Victoria. 2. Mr. Martin.

Six Picotees.—1. Mr. Hill, for Princess Royal, Seedling, Duchess of Cambridge, Queen Victoria, Miss Dundas, and Amy. 2. Mr. Martin.

Six Carnations. Amateurs.—1. Mr. Archer, for Lord Pollington, Duke of Sutherland, Count Paulina, Firebrand, Premier, and Lady Ely. 2. Mr. John Hill, for Martin's Splendid, 'Squire Meynell, True Briton, Firebrand, Lady Ely, and Robert Burns. 3. Mr. Goodall.

Six Picotees. Amateurs.—1. Mr. Archer, for Fanny Irby, Prince Albert, Prince George, Nulli Secundus, Mrs. Bevan, and Favourite. 2 Mr. Goodall, for Juliet, Masterpiece, Seedling No. 49, Mrs. Barnard, Seedling No. 2-49, and Delicata. 3. Mr. J. Hill.

LEICESTER FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The society held their third exhibition for the season, for the display of carnations and picotees, at the Exchange rooms, Market-place, on August 7th. In the general display there was a scarcity of production, which is always the case at this particular show, but this was somewhat compensated for by the splendid specimens of picotees staged by Mr. R. Marris, four of them, in his pan of six, being raised by himself, and two of them having stood the test of some of the principal London exhibitions. The Prince Albert and Prince of Wales picotees were shown by Mr. Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, at the Chiswick, South London, and Stamford Hill shows, and were placed first and second in his collection, the Prince of Wales being mentioned at the Chiswick show, as extra fine. We understand he has another to "come out," equal to those already mentioned; it is in the rose-edged class, and he has named it "Victoria Regina." Mr. Marris also exhibited a magnificent bloom of Hollyoake's Dido, which was placed first in its class; this variety was also exhibited in fine style by Mr. Turner, and it has been remarked that it is second to none in cultivation. J. M. Robinson, of Oadby, also staged a large variety, containing numerous seedlings, for which the judges made an extra award of merit. Mr. Wood, of the Coppice, near Nottingham, and Mr. Donaldson, gardener to C. B. Robinson, Esq. officiated as judges. Below, we give their awards.

CARNATIONS.

Six Blooms.—1. Mansley's Beauty of Woodhouse, seedling scarlet flake, Hepworth's True Briton, Ely's Duke of Bedford, May's Ariel, and Barringer's Earl Spencer, Mr. R. Marris. 2. Vanguard (R.F.), seedling purple flake, Easom's

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Admiral Curzon, Hepworth's Hamlet, Holland's No. 12 (R.F.), and Hudson's Duke of Rutland, Mr. G. Hudson. 3. Ely's Lord Pollington, Hudson's Duke of Rutland, Hepworth's Claudiana, Twitchett's Don John, Tomlyn's Brisies, and Lord Chancellor, Mr. W. Mitchell.

Three Blooms.—1. Holliday's Lord Rancliffe, Easom's Admiral Curzon, and Queen of Sheba, Mr. W. Hollyoake. 2. Elliott's Victory, Holliday's Lord Rancliffe, and Hardwick's Firebrand, Mr. R. Marris.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Admiral Curzon, Mr. R. Marris.
2 Hamlet, Mr. Hudson.
3 British Hero, Mr. Hollyoake.
4 Don John, Mr, Mitchell.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Ely's Lord Milton, Mr. Hollyoake.
2 Elliott's Victory, ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.
4 Ely's Duke of Bedford, R. Marris,
5 Ely's Lord Milton, Mr. Hudson.
6 Wakefield's Paul Pry, Mr. Hollyoake.
7 Slater's Gladiator, ditto.
8 Ditto, Mr. R. Marris.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Hollyoake's Dido, Mr. R. Marris.
2 Simpson's Victoria, Mr. Cox.
3 Hardwick's Firebrand, Mr. R. Marris.
4 Adenbrooke's Lydia, Mr. Cox.
5 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
6 Wilson's William IV., Mr. Mitchell.

Rose Flakes.

1 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
2 Holland's No. 12, ditto.
3 Addis's Formosa, ditto.

Purple Flakes.

1 Norman's Wellington, Mr. Hudson.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.

PICOTEES.

Six Blooms.—1. Marris's Prince of Wales, Prince Albert, Victoria Regina, and Princess Royal, Headley's Venus, and May's Juliet, Mr. R. Marris. 2. Wildman's Isabella, Burroughes's Amy, Marris's Alfred, Seedling, Gatliff's Regina, and Proconsul, Mr. G. Hudson.

Three blooms.—1. Seedlings, two heavy-edged red and one light-edged purple, Mr. F. W. Hollyoake. 2. Prince of Wales, Princess Royal, and Headley's King James, Mr. R. Marris. 3. Brinklow's Purple Perfection, Matthews's Enchantress, and Sharp's L'Elegante, Mr. W. Cox.

Light-edged Red.

1 Edmonds's Jenny Lind, R. Marris.
2 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
3 Ditto, Mr. Hollyoake.
4 Ditto ditto.
5 Ditto, Mr. Hudson.
6 Ditto ditto.

Heavy edged Red.

1 Barringer's Ada, Mr. R. Marris.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 May's Sebastian, ditto.
4 Headley's King James, ditto.
5 Ditto, Mr. Hollyoake.
6 Sharp's Red Rover, Mr. Cox.
7 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
8 Matthews's Ne plus ultra, ditto.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Seedling, Mr. Hollyoake.
2 Matthews's Enchantress, Mitchell.
3 Brinklow's Purple Perfection, Hudson
4 Seedling, ditto.
5 Burroughes's D. of Newcastle, Mitchell
6 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 May's Portia, R. Marris.
2 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
3 Gatliff's Regina, ditto.
4 Wood's Princess Alice, Mr. Cox.
5 Iphigenia, Mr. Hudson.
6 Seedling, Mr. Hollyoake.

Light-edged Rose.

1 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
2 Ditto, Mr. Hollyoake.
3 Ditto, Mr. Hudson.

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Marris's Victoria Regina, R. Marris.
2 Seedling, Mr. Hudson.
3 Ditto, Mr. Marris.
4 Headley's Venus, Mr. Hudson.
5 Proconsul, ditto.
6 Headley's Venus, Mr. H. Marris.
7 Ditto, Mr. Hollyoake.

Yellow.

1 Martin's Victoria, Mr. R. Marris.
2 Barraud's Euphemia, ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.

CARNATION SHOW,

At the Boar's Head Inn, Halifax, August 14.

Premier Prize.—Royal Briton, J. Jackson.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Royal Briton, J. Jackson.
2 Seedling No. 9, F. Marchant.
3 Leader, H. Tate.
4 Sir R. Peel, M. Mansley.
5 Brilliant, J. Jackson.
6 Palladin, M. Mansley,
7 Rainbow, ditto.
8 Seedling No. 6, F. Marchant.

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Crimson Bizarres.

1 William Caxton, H. Tate.
2 Seedling No. 10, F. Marchant.
3 Lord Milton, H. Tate.
4 Seedling No. 11, F. Marchant,
5 Seedling No. 15, ditto.
6 Paul Pry, J. Jackson.
7 Seedling No. 12, F. Marchant.
8 Seedling No. 16, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Beauty of Brighouse, M. Mansley.
2 Seedling No. 10, F. Marchant.
3 Gustavus (seedling), J. Jackson.
4 William IV., J. Jackson.
5 First West York, M. Mansley.
6 Seedling No. 20, F. Marchant.
7 Seedling No. 18, J. Jackson.
8 Brilliant, M. Mansley.

Purple Flakes.

1 Charlotte, F. Marchant.
2 Mango, M. Mansley.
3 Mr. Jepson (seedling), J. Jackson.
4 Seedling No. 47, F. Marchant.
5 'Squire Meynell, ditto.
6 Seedling No. 49, ditto.
7 Miss Thornton, H. Tate.
8 Bellerophon, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

1 Flora, J. Jackson.
2 Marquis of Westminster, ditto.
3 Lady Ely, ditto.
4 Seedling No. 32, F. Marchant.
5 Seedling, No. 35, ditto.
6 Wilson's Harriet, J. Jackson.
7 Lady Edgerton, ditto.
8 Jenny Lind, M. Mansley.

PICOTEES.

Premier Prize.—Lamartine (seedling), J. Jackson.—This fine seedling was greatly admired by all the growers present, and pronounced to be a first-rate variety.

Light-edged Red.

1 Judy Ann, M. Mansley.
2 Massaniello, ditto.
3 Mrs. Horner, F. Marchant.
4 Baron, M. Mansley.
5 Yorksbire Hero, ditto.
6 Seedling No. 6, J. Jackson.
7 Seedling No. 39, ditto.
8 Seedling No. 40, ditto,

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Mrs. Horner, H. Tate.
2 Sir R. Sale, J. Jackson.
3 Miss Binns (seedling), ditto,
4 Crispin, H. Tate.
5 Mrs. Meynell, J. Jackson.
6 Saladin, M. Mansley.
7 Seedling No. 100, ditto.
8 Seedling No. 91, ditto.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Eliza Cook (seedling), J. Jackson.
2 Henrietta (seedling), ditto.
3 Delicata (seedling) ditto.
4 Favourite, H. Tate.
5 Seedling No. 17, J. Jackson.
6 Ely's Miss Emma, ditto.
7 Seedling No. 31, ditto.
8 Seedling, M. Mansley.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Lamartine (seedling), J. Jackson.
2 Nulli Secundus, ditto.
3 Princess Alice, M. Mansley.
4 Field Marshal, J. Jackson.
5 Queen Victoria, M. Mansley.
6 Mrs Lilly, ditto.
7 Seedling No 94, ditto.
8 Favourite, H. Tate.

WEST RIDING CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY.

The members of this society held their first exhibition of carnations and picotees, open to the West Riding, at the house of Mr Hinscliffe, Wellington Inn, Dewsbury, on Wednesday, the 15th of August. The principal object of this sociey was to test seedling varieties, and to report upon such as the committee appointed should determine to be an addition worthy of cultivation. The list closed with a large entry from various parts of the Riding, and numerous seedlings, as well as established varieties, were brought together, for the opinion of the censors appointed, viz. for the classes, Messrs. Fieldhouse, Hecson and Hinscliffe. A committee of seven was appointed to test the merits of the seedling specimens, and to recommend such only as were worthy of being sold out, viz. Messrs. Smith, Dobbings, Stephenson, Oxley, Grey, Bramma, and Mansley. The following is the award of prizes:—

SEEDLING SPECIMENS.—CARNATIONS.

Purple Flake.—1 Zangee, J. Chapman, recommended

Rose Flake.—1 Lady of the Manor, G. Baildon, Halifax, recommended.
2 Miss Judith, F. Marchant, Halifax, recommended.

Scarlet Bizarre.—1. Jupiter, H. Coggill, Leeds, recommended.
2 Not named, J. Hepworth Huddersfield, recommended.
3 Ditto ditto ditto ditto.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Purple.—1 Lamartine, J. Jackson, Deighton, recommended.
2 No name, J. Hepworth, Huddersfield, recommended.

Light-edged Purple.—1 Miss Howard, C. Scholefield, Leeds, recommended.

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CLASSES.—CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Ely's Jolly Dragoon, I. Clayton.
2 Duke of Leeds, J. Smith.
3 Admiral Curzon, W. Gray.
4 Sir Robert Peel, J. Smith.
5 Royal Briton, J. Jackson.
6 Beauty of Elland(se.)F.Marchant.
7 Masterpiece (seedling), ditto.
8 Prince of Wales, I. Clayton.
9 Appleby's Rainbow, M. Mansley.
10 Captain Edwards, J. Jackson.

Pink Bizarres.

1 Paul Pry, J. Wilkinson.
2 Lord Milton, J. Archer.
3 Hugo Meynell, W. Grey.
4 Prince Rupert (se.) M. Mansley.
5 Wales's Misfortune, I. Clayton.
6 Wonderful (seedling), F.Marchant
7 Nulli Secundus, M. Mansley.
8 Foxhunter (seedling), J Steel.
9 Wondrous (seedling), F. Marchant
10 Sir Robert (seedling), M. Mansley

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Beauty of Brighouse, J. Jackson.
2 Wilson's William IV., I. Clayton.
3 Gustavus (seedling) J. Jackson.
4 Beauty of Cradley, J. Chapman.
5 King of Scarlets (seed.), W. Gray.
6 Will Scarlet (seed.), F. Marchant.
7 Robin Hood (seedling), ditto.
8 Prince of Wales (se.), I. Clayton.
9 Patriot, M. Mansley.
10 Fireball, C. Scholefield.

Purple Flakes.

1 Zangar (seedling), J. Chapman.
2 Purple Perfection(s.),J.Wilkinson
3 Mango, J. Smith.
4 Princess Charlotte, I. Clayton.
5 Beauty of Woodhouse, ditto.
6 Glory of Greetland (s.), J.Jackson.
7 'Squire Meynell, M. Mansley.
8 Miss Thornton, ditto.
9 Mr. Jepson (seedling), J. Jackson.
10 Evans's Victoria, J. Booth.

Rose Flakes.

1 Lady Ely, J. Archer.
2 Lady of the Manor (s.).G.Baildon.
3 Ely's Lovely Ann, J. Steel.
4 Harriet (seedling), G. Baildon.
5 Flora, J. Jackson.
6 Lady Flora Hastings, J. Steel.
7 Miss Judith (seed.), F. Marchant.
8 Marchioness of Westminster, J. Jackson.
9 Bonny Lass (seed.), F. Marchant.
10 Leonora (seedling), M. Mansley.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Mrs. Horner, J. Wilkinson.
2 Sir Robert Sale, J. Gill.
3 Miss Simpson (seedling), J.Archer
4 Adeline, M. Mansley.
5 Miss Binns, (seed.), J. Jackson.
6 Sir William Middleton, J. Steel.
7 Wonder (seedling), ditto.
8 Marc Antony, J. Smith.
9 Plutarch (seedling), J. Steel.
10 London (seedling), J. Archer.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Nulli Secundus, J. Booth.
2 Field Marshal, J. Gill.
3 Lamartine (seedling), J. Jackson.
4 Crask's Qu. Victoria, M. Mansley.
5 Favourite, J. Steel.
6 Princess Alice, M. Mansley.
7 Pluperfect, ditto.
8 Mrs. Lilly, J. Steel.
9 Maria (seedling), J. Gant.
10 Conductor (seedling), J. Gill.

Light-edged Red.

1 Mrs. Horner, J. Wilkinson.
2 Plutarch (seedling), J. Steel.
3 Duch. of Cambridge, C.Scholefield
4 Mary (seedling), J. Gant.
5 Julia Ann, M. Mansley.
6 Massaniello, ditto.
7 Plutarch (seedling), J. Steel.
8 Miss Sarah, J. Gill.
9 Ellen, (seedling), E. Marchant.
10 Conqueror, J. Gill.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Eliza Cook (seedling), J. Jackson.
2 Miss Howard (se.), C. Scholefield.
3 Miss Gray (seedling), J. Archer.
4 Ely's Favourite, W. Gray.
5 Delicata (seedling), J. Jackson.
6 Miss Simpson (seed.), J. Archer.
7 John's Prince Albert, J. Farrar.
8 Victoria, J. Gill.
9 Miss Harriet (seedling), ditto.
10 Nulli, ditto.

TODMORDEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW,

At the Odd Fellows' Hall, August 16.

The judge, Mr. J. Cheetham, of Rochdale, awarded the prizes as follows :—

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Lodges's True Briton, J. Suthers.
2 Rainforth's Gameboy, ditto.
3 Marchant's Sir Robert Peel, ditto.
4 Hogh's Duke of Leeds, W. Hellewell, Esq.

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5 Hepworth's Leader, T Lord.
6 Brierley's Music, W. Helliwell, Esq.
7 Martin's Splendid, R. W. Foster.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Cartwright's Rainbow, J. Haigh.
2 Ely's William Caxton, W. Helliwell, Esq.
3 Elliott's Victory, R. W. Foster.
4 Wakefield's Paul Pry, W. Helliwell, Esq.
5 Gregory's King Alfred, J. Haigh.
6 Ely's Duke of Bedford, R. W. Foster.
7 Ely's Hugo Meynell, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Wilson's William IV., J. Suthers.
2 Wallis's Beauty of Cradley, ditto.
3 Simpson's Marquis of Granby, T. Lord.
4 Chadwick's Brilliant, R. W. Foster.
5 Smith's Capt. Royds (new), ditto.
6 Ely's King of Scarlets, R. W. Foster.
7 Moore's First West York, J. Suthers

Rose Flakes.

1 Ely's Lady Gardiner, R. W. Foster.
2 Ely's Lady Ely, J. Suthers.
3 Lowe's Marchioness of Westminster, R. W. Foster.
4 May's Ariel, ditto.
5 Lee's Jenny Lind, ditto.
6 Barringer's Apollo, ditto.
7 Dobbins's Mountaineer, J. Suthers.

Purple Flakes.

1 Barringer's Earl Spencer, J. Haigh.
2 Mansley's Bonny Bess, W. Helliwell, Esq.
3 Massey's Esther, R. W. Foster.
4 Millwood's Premier, J. Suthers.
5 Evans's Queen Victoria, R. W. Foster
6 Holliday's Queen of Purples, ditto.
7 Wallis's Bonny Lass, ditto.

PICOTEES.

Red-edged.

1 Benn's Marc Antony, T. Lord.
2 Ely's Mrs. Horner, R. Brook.
3 Molyneux's Maid of Honour, T. Lord
4 Lee's Privateer, W. Helliwell, Esq.
5 Sharp's Countess de Grey, R. W. Foster.
6 Sharp's Duke of Wellington, J. Suthers.
7 Chadwick's William the Conqueror, ditto.

Purple-edged.

1 May's Portia, T. Lord.
2 Mitchell's Nulli Secundus, W. Helliwell, Esq.
3 John's Prince Albert, T. Lord.
4 Burroughes's President, R. W. Foster.
5 Ely's Field Marshal W. Helliwell.
6 Hepworth's Emily, R. W. Foster.
7 Burroughes's Duke of Newcastle, ditto.

TODMORDEN AMATEUR SOCIETY OF FLORISTS

Held their carnation show, at the White Hart Inn, Market-place, August 25, when the following prizes were awarded by the judge, Mr. T. Smith, Rochdale:

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres

1 Hoyle's Duke of Leeds, R. Brook.
2 Marchant's Sir R. Peel, T. Lord.
3 Hepworth's Hector, J. Suthers.
4 Elliott's Duke of Sutherland, ditto.
5 Easom's Admiral Curzon, ditto.
6 Lodge's True Briton, R. Brook.
7 Walmsley's Wm IV., R. W. Foster.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Cartwright's Rainbow, J. Suthers.
2 Wakefield's Paul Pry, ditto.
3 Marris's Thomas Hood, R. W. Foster
4 Elliott's Victory, ditto.
5 Ely's Duke of Bedford, T. Lord.
6 Ely's Lord Milton, ditto.
7 Gregory's King Alfred, W. Helliwell, Esq.

Scarlet Flakes,

1 Wilson's William IV., J. Suthers.
2 Bramhall's Mrs. Abney, T. Lord.
3 Chadwick's Brilliant, R. W. Foster.
4 Mitchell's Patriot, ditto.
5 Wallis's Be. of Cradley, R. W. Foster
6 Ely's Lord Morpeth, ditto.
7 Smith's Captain Royds, J. Suthers.

Rose Flakes.

1 Ely's Lovely Ann, R. W. Foster.
2 Ely's Lady Gardiner, ditto.
3 El's Lady Ely, ditto.
4 Barringer's Apollo, W. Helliwell, Esq.
5 Lowe's Marchioness of Westminster, J. Suthers.
6 May's Ariel, R. W. Foster.
7 Lee's Jenny Lind, ditto.

Purple Flakes.

1 Millwood's Premier, R. W. Foster.
2 Ely's Mango, ditto.
3 Mansley's Bonny Bess, ditto.
4 Massey's Esther, ditto.
5 Hudson's Miss Thornton, W. Helliwell, Esq.
6 Evans's Queen Victoria, R. W. Foster
7 Hufton's Blue Ribbon, ditto.

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PICOTEES.

Red.

1 Benn's Marc Antony, T. Lord.
2 Chadwick's William the Conqueror, R. Brook.
3 Brook's Duchess of Cambridge, T. Lord.
4 Sharp's Duke of Wellington, R. Brook.
5 Wildman's Isabella, R. W. Foster.
6 Ely's Sir R. Sale, R. W. Foster.
7 Ely's Mrs. Horner, R. Brook.

Purple.

1 Mitchell's Nulli Secundus, T Lord.
2 Wood's Princess Alice, ditto.
3 May's Portia, ditto.
4 Ely's Favourite, ditto.
5 John's Prince Albert, ditto.
6 Holiday's Delicata, R. W. Foster.
7 Ely's Grace Darling, ditto.

Colt's Prize.—Smith's Captain Royds, R. Brook.

CAMBRIDGE FLORISTS' SOCIETY.

CARNATIONS.

Premier Prize.—Headly's Royal Chancellor, Mr. Headly.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Headly's Achilles, Mr. Headly.
2 Duke of Sutherland, ditto.
3 Prince Albert, ditto.
4 Duke of Sutherland, ditto.
5 Gameboy, Mr. Twitchett.
6 Duke of Sutherland, ditto.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Ely's Lord Milton, Mr. Headly.
2 Hugo Meynell, ditto.
3 Robert Burns, ditto.
4 Duke of Bedford, Mr. Twitchett.
5 Paul Pry, Mr. Ready.
6 King Alfred, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 William IV., Mr. Headly.
2 Lydia, ditto.
3 Twitchett's Vesuvius (seedling), Mr. Twitchett.
4 William IV., Mr. Headly.
5 Defiance, ditto.
6 William IV., Mr. Twitchett.

Purple Flakes.

1 Headly's Royal Chancellor, Mr. Headly,
2 ditto ditto
3 Beauty of Woodhouse, ditto.
4 Willmer's Solander, ditto.
5 Beauty of Woodhouse, Mr. Twitchett
6 Bellerophon, Mr. Lenton.

Rose Flakes.

1 Ely's Lovely Ann, Mr. Headly.
2 Lady Ely, Mr. Twitchett.
3 Duchess of Downshire, Mr. Catling
4 Brisies, ditto.
5 Rosabella, ditto.
6 Brisies, ditto.

PICOTEES.

Premier Prize.—Twitchett's Antigone, Mr. Headly.

Heavy-edged Red.

6 Headly's King James, Mr. Twitchett

Light-edged Red.

1 Primett's Bendigo, Mr. Headly.
2 Twitchett's Apollo(s.) Mr. Twitchett
3 Headly's Generalissimo, Mr. Headly
4 Twitchett's Queen Elizabeth (seedling), Mr. Twitchett.
5 Sharp's Hector, Mr. Lenton.
6 Ditto ditto.

Heavy edged Purple.

1 Twitchett's Medusa (seedling), Mr. Twitchett.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.
4 Twitchett's Minerva (seed.), ditto.
5 Headly's Eliza, Mr. Headly.
6 Princess Alice, Mr. Ready.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Twitchett's Antigone, Mr. Headly.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 L'Elegante ditto.
4 Vespasian, Mr. Press.
5 Penelope (seedling), Mr. Twitchett.
6 Ditto ditto.

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Headly's Venus, Mr. Headly.
2 Green's Victoria, Mr. Press.
3 Ditto, Mr. Catling.
4 Ditto, Mr. Green.
5 Seedling, Mr. Twitchett.
6 Green's Victoria, Mr. Catling.

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Headly.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 General Jackson, ditto.
4 Twitchett's Angelica (seedling), Mr. Twitchett.
5 Mrs. Barnard, ditto.
6 Twitchett's Angelica, ditto.

Yellow

1 Martin's Victoria, Mr. Twitchett.
2 Barraud's Euphemia, ditto.
3 Martin's Victoria, ditto.
4 Luff's Surprise, Mr. Catling.

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DUKE OF LANCASTER FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

The members of this society held their annual show of carnations, picotees, and other productions, at the house of Mr. John Moreton, John O'Gaunt Inn, Rothwell Haigh, near Leeds, and the prizes were awarded as follows:—

CARNATIONS.

Seven Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Seedling, Ely's Lord Milton, Fireball, Earl Spencer, Ely's Lovely Ann, Ely's Sir Robert Sale and seedling, Scholefield and Son. 2. Seedling, Ely's Lord Milton, Marquis of Granby, seedling, Ely's Lady Gardiner, and two seedlings, B. Ely and Son. 3. Patriarch, British, Queen, Brilliant, Miss Thornton, Ely's Lovely Ann, Sir Robert Sale, and Favourite, J. Gill.

Premier Bloom.—Ely's Lovely Ann, Scholefield and Son.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Seedling, B. Ely & Son.
2 Admiral Curzon, Scholefield & Son.
3 Britain, J. Fryer.
4 Duke of Sutherland, Scholefield & Son.
5 Patriarch, J. Gill.
6 Ditto ditto.

Pink Bizarres.

1 Ely's Lord Milton, Scholefield&Son
2 Wakefield's Paul Pry, ditto.
3 Lord Brougham, Ely & Son.
4 Ely's William Caxton, J. Fryer.
5 British Queen, J. Gill.
6 Seedling Ely & Son.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Brilliant, J. Gill.
2 Earl of Errol, Ely & Son.
3 Fireball, Scholefield & Son.
4 Seedling, J. Gill.
5 Seedling, Ely and Son.
6 William IV., ditto.

Purple Flakes.

1 Earl Spencer, Scholefield & Son,
2 Miss Thornton, J. Gill.
3 Seedling, Ely & Son.
4 Angler, J. Friar.
5 'Squire Meynell, Ely & Son.
6 Ely's Mango, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

1 Ely's Lovely Ann, Scholefield&Son.
2 Seedling, W. Chadwick.
3 Ely's Lady Ely, Scholefield & Son.
4 Ely's Lady Gardiner, Ely & Son.
5 Lady Flora, ditto.
6 Brisies, Scholefield & Son.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Scarlet.

1 Ely's Sir R. Sale, Scholefield & Son.
2 Duchess of Cambridge, ditto.
3 King James, ditto.
4 Seedling 120, W. Chadwick.
5 Seedling, J. Gill.
6 Ely's Mrs. Horner, W. Chadwick.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Nulli Secundus, Scholefield & Son.
2 Ely's Lady Sale, ditto.
3 Ely's Field Marshal, ditto.
4 Seedling, Ely & Son.
5 Ely's Favourite, ditto.
6 Ely's Sophia, ditto.

Light-edged Scarlet.

1 Seedling, Ely & Son.
2 Ely's Mrs. Horner, J. Lucas.
3 Yorkshire Hero, J. Fryer.
4 Seedling 45, Ely & Son.
5 Seedling, J. Gill
6 Judith Ann, W Chadwick.

Light-edged Purple

1 Seedling, Scholefield & Son.
2 Fullis, J Gill.
3 Miss Duke, Ely & Son.
4 Ely's Mrs. Faviell, Scholefield & Son
5 Victoria, J. Gill.
6 Prince Albert, Ely & Son.

Rose.

1 Comet, Scholefield & Son.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Ditto, Ely & Son.
4 Ditto, W. Chadwick.
5 Favourite, Ely & Son,
6 Fanny Irby, Scholefield & Son.

Yellow.

1 Euphemia, Scholefield & Son.
2 Hogg's Plain Yellow, Ely & Son.
3 Euphemia, Scholefield & Son.
4 Ditto ditto.
5 Victoria, Ely & Son.
6 Brock's Queen, ditto.

Self.

1 Seedling, Ely & Son.
2 Purity, ditto.
3 Platina, ditto.
4 Virgin Queen, ditto.
5 Seedling, ditto.
6 Ditto ditto.

LEICESTER AMATEUR FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY,

The closing exhibition of the season, for the display of the dahlia, was held at the Exchange-rooms, August 26th.

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DAHLIAS.

Six Blooms.—1. Sir Edmund Antrobus, Admiral Stopford, Lady Stopford, Vivid, Bridesmaid, and Gloria Mundi, W. Mitchell. 2. Sir Edmund Antrobus, Captain Warner, Queen of Roses, Aurantia, Nonpareil, and Princess Royal, T. Galloway; 3. Sir Edmund Antrobus, Duchess of Kent, Princess Royal, Standard of Perfection, Beeswing, and Arethusa, G. Evans. 4. Cleopatra, Sir Edm. Antrobus, Queen of Roses, Beeswing, Princess Royal, and Captain Warner, T. Corah.

Three Blooms.—1. Marchioness of Cornwallis, Sir Edmund Antrobus, and Cleopatra, T. Corah. 2. Vivid, Stopford, and Sir Edmund Antrobus, W. Mitchell. 3. Beeswing, Sir Edmund Antrobus, and Princess Royal, G. Evans. 4. Nonpareil, Captain Warner, and Queen of Roses, T. Galloway.

Yellow.

1 Standard, Mr. Galloway.
2 Cleopatra, Mr. Mitchell.
3 Standard, Mr. Galloway.
4 Ditto ditto.
5 Ditto ditto.
6 Ditto ditto.
7 Ditto ditto

Tipped.

1 Princess Royal, Mr. Galloway.
2 Bridesmaid, Mr. Mitchell.

Rose

1 Queen of Roses, Mr. Mitchell.
2 Ditto, Mr. Galloway.
3 Ditto ditto.

Scarlet.

1 Nonpareil, Mr. Mitchell.
2 Vivid ditto.
3 Nonpareil, Mr. Galloway.

Dark.

1 Captain Warner, Mr. Galloway.
2 Admiral Stopford, Mr. Lane.
3 Sir E. Antrobus, Mr. Mitchell.
4 Beeswing, Mr. Galloway.
5 Sir E. Antrobus, ditto.
6 Standard of Perfection, ditto.
7 Beeswing, ditto.
8 Sir E. Antrobus, ditto.

Orange.

1 Aurantia, Mr. Galloway.
1 Ditto ditto.

ROSES.

Stand of Six.—La Reine, Mrs. Elliott, Dr. Marx, Jean Desprez, Madame Laffay, and Acidalie, T. Galloway.

Stand of Three.—Mrs. Elliott, Duchess of Sutherland, and Queen of Bourbons, W. Cox.

NORTHAMPTON DAHLIA EXHIBITION.

September 19.

Twenty-four Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Golden Fleece, Crocus, Mrs. Shelley, Essex Triumph, Princess Louisa, Lady St. Maur, Beeswing, Marquis of Worcester, Mr. Selden, Toison d'Or, Nonpareil, Miss Vyse, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Scarlet Gem, Black Prince, Earl of Clarendon, Yellow Standard, Princess Radziville, Shylock, Dreadnought, Berryer, Privateer, Miss Weller, and Violet Perfection, Mr. Holliday. 2. Admiral Stopford, Beauty of Hastings, Berryer, Cleopatra, Captain Warner, Beeswing, Fulwood Scarlet, Oakley's Gem, Miss Vyse, Princess Royal, Standard of Perfection, Louis Philippe, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Walter Hilson, Golden Fleece, Toison d'Or, Empress of the Whites, Goldfinder, Mrs. Shelley, Richard Cobden, Essex Rosy Lilac, Yellow Standard, Scarlet Gem, and Shylock, Mr. Archer.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Lady St. Maur, Beeswing, Mr. Seldon, Golden Fleece, Princess Louisa, Mr. Anderson, Marquis of Worcester, Essex Triumph, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Violet Perfection, Yellow Standard, and Nonpareil, Mr. Archer. 2. Standard of Perfection, Yellow Standard, Berryer, Captain Warner, Marquis of Worcester, Mrs. Shelley, Shylock, Miss Vyse, Scarlet Gem, Princess Radziville, Queen of Roses, and Nonpareil, Mr. Goodall. 3. Admiral Stopford, Berryer, Beeswing, Empress of the Whites, Oakley's Gem, Goldfinder, Walter Hilson, Standard of Perfection, Louis Philippe, Princess Royal, Toison d'Or, and Shylock, Mr. Archer.

Six Blooms. For Amateurs only.—1. Grenadier, Sir E. Antrobus, Berryer, Standard of Perfection, Marchioness of Cornwallis, and Louis Philippe, Mr. J. Stanton. 2. Beeswing, Sir E. Antrobus, Captain Warner, Mrs. Shelley, Louis Philippe, and Pickwick, Mr. Martin.

Twelve Fancy Dahlias.—1. Jenny Lind, Vicomte de Resiquier, Triomphe de Magdeburgh, M. Walner, Remembrancer, Minerva, Madame Wachy, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Roi de Points, Emperor de Maroc, Miss Jane, and Adolphe Dubras, Mr. Holliday.

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Six Fancy Dahlias.—1. Jenny Lind, Princess de Magdeburgh, Vicomte de Resiquier, Miss Jane, Minerva, and Emperor de Maroc, Mr. Holliday. 2. Mr. J. Stanton; 3. Emperor de Maroc, Jenny Lind, Remembrancer, Master G. Clayton, Minerva, and Admirable, Mr. Archer.

Extra Prize, given by Mr. Lloyd.—1. Toison d'Or, Princess Louisa, Circus, Beeswing, Rubens, Mr. Seldon, Essex Triumph, Andromeda, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Nonpareil, Mrs. Anderson, and Dreadnought, Mr. Holliday.

Extra Prize, given by Mr. G. Macquire.—1. Captain Warner, Miss Vyse, Standard of Perfection, Nonpareil, Berryer, and Marchioness of Cornwallis, Mr. Goodall. 2. Mrs. Shelley, Louis Philippe, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Sir E. Antrobus, Berryer, and Marquis of Worcester, Mr. J. Hills. 3. Shylock, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Yellow Standard, Berryer, Nonpareil, and Miss Vyse, Mr. W. Hills.

Extra Prize, given by Mr. Archer.—1. Vicomte de Resiquier, and Mrs. Shelley, Mr. Lawrence.

White.

1 Antagonist, Mr. Lawrence.
2 Ditto, Mr. Holliday.
3 Cornwallis, ditto.

Yellow.

1 Yellow Standard, Mr. Holliday.
2 Crocus, ditto.
3 Prince of Wales, Mr. Lawrence.

Tipped.

1 Princess Radziville, Mr. Holliday.
2 Privateer, ditto.

Lilac, or Rose.

1 Mrs. Shelley, Mr. Holliday.
2 Ditto, Mr. Hill.
3 Miss Waller, Mr. Holliday.

Purple.

1 Violet Perfection, Mr. Holliday.
2 Mr. Seldon, ditto.

Scarlet.

1 Shylock, Mr. Wills.
2 Nonpareil, Mr. Holliday.
3 Box, ditto.

Crimson, or Red.

1 Captivation, Mr. Holliday.
2 Victory, ditto.

Dark, or Marone.

1 Essex Triumph, Mr. Holliday.
2 Admiral Stopford, Mr. Lawrence.
3 Black Prince, Mr. Holliday.

Orange, or Buff.

1 Rubens, Mr. Holliday.
2 Walter Hilson, Mr. Archer.
3 Golden Fleece, Mr. Wills.

Fancy.

1 Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Holliday.
2 Miss Jane, ditto.
3 Jenny Lind, ditto.
4 Princess Magdeburgh, ditto.
5 Emperor de Maroc, ditto.
6 Roi de Points, ditto.

IRVINE (N.B.) FLORISTS' DAHLIA COMPETITION.

On the 20th of September, the florists of Irvine and neighbourhood, held a private dahlia competition, which was largely attended and keenly contested. The blooms were all very large and fine, and did the growers much credit. The prizes were awarded as follows:—

Nine Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Beeswing, Yellow Standard, Standard of Perfection, Princess Radziville, Emperor of the Whites, Aurantia, Cleopatra, Lady of the Lake, and Sir E. Antrobus, W. Balsillie, Esq. Irvine. 2. Yellow Standard, Marquis of Aylesbury, Nonpareil, Emperor of the Whites, Beeswing, Mrs. Shelley, Standard of Perfection, Admiral Stopford, and Marchioness of Cornwallis, Mr. J. Cowan, gardener to P. B. Mure Macready, Esq. Perceton.

Three Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Yellow Standard, Beeswing, and Bathonia, R. Cowan. 2. Marquis of Aylesbury, Beeswing, and Hero of Stonehenge, L. Mac Bride. 3. Yellow Standard, Beeswing, and Admiral Stopford, A. Robertson. 4. Beeswing, Marchioness of Cornwallis, and Cleopatra, W. Balsillie, Esq. 5. Beeswing, Admiral Stopford, and Standard of Perfection, Captain Fullarton. 6. Beeswing, Nonpareil, and Bathonia, J. Cowan. 7. Beeswing, Bathonia, and Marchioness of Cornwallis, W. Peden. 8. Virgil, Antagonist, and Perpetual Grand, J. A. Davidson. 9. Beeswing, Antagonist, and unknown, J. Allan.

Single Blooms.—1. Beeswing, W. Balsillie, Esq. 2. Beeswing, W. Peden. 3. Beeswing, J. Cowan. 4. Beeswing, B. Robertson. 5 Boule de Feu, R. Cowan. 6. Marchioness of Cornwallis, L. Mac Bride. 7. Virgil, J. A. Davidson. 8. Standard of Perfection, Captain, Fullarton. 9. Yellow Defiance, J. Allan.

Single Blooms, each Competitor allowed to compete with Three.—1. Beeswing, R. Cowan. 2. Beauty of Sussex, Captain Fullarton. 3. Admiral Stopford, A. Robertson. 4 Cleopatra, W. Balsillie, Esq. 5. Marchioness of Cornwallis, J. Allan. 6. Princess Radziville, R. Cowan. 7. Shylock, W. Balsillie, Esq. 8. Shylock, Captain Fullarton. 9. Bathonia, A. Robertson. 10. Mrs. Shelley, J. Allan 11. Consolation, R Cowan. 12. Virgil, A. Robertson. 13. Antagonist J. Allan; 14. Beeswing, Captain Fullarton.

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ASHTON-UNDER-LINE FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Tulip show, in the Town Hall, May 28.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Matley.
2 Waterloo, J. W. Mellor.
3 Pass Catafalque, J. Naylor.
4 Lord Lilford, ditto.
5 Duc de Savoy, A. Tomlinson.
6 Magnum Bonum, J. Naylor.
7 Rising Sun, A. Tomlinson.
8 Pompey's Pillar, J. Newton.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Albion, S. Adams.
2 San Joe, A. Tomlinson.
3 Charbonnier, W. Maltby.
4 Lustre, A. Tomlinson
5 Polyphemus, W. Peacock, Esq.
6 Charles X., S. Cox.
7 Pass Lacantique, J. W. Mellor.
8 Ditto ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, W. Matley.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Violet Amiable, S. Cox.
4 Ambassador, John Naylor.
5 Pass La Grand, ditto.
6 Incomparable, T. Leech.
7 Sportsman, W. Matley.
8 Beauty, John Naylor.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Atlas, W. Matley.
2 Alexander Magnus, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 Violet Wallers, ditto.
4 Bienfait, J. Naylor.
5 Czarinne, J. Haigh.
6 Incomparable, S. Cox.
7 Louis XVI., W. Chadwick.
8 Roi de Siam, S. Cocks.

Feathered Roses.

1 Newcastle, S. Shawcross.
2 Comte, W. Matley.
3 Heroine, J. Wild.
4 Lady Crewe, J. Haigh.
5 Andromeda, S. Adams.
6 Dolittle, J. Hilton.
7 Lady Ann Fayel, J. Naylor.
8 Joan of Arc, ditto.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, S. Cocks.
2 Vesta, T. Leech.
3 Vainquer, ditto.
4 Vandycken, S. Cocks.
5 Lady Crewe, J. Lees.
6 Aglaia, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Rose Guerrier, S. Shawcross.
8 Alexander du Roi, J. Naylor.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Beauty of Dovedale, J. Naylor.
2 Polyphemus, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 Ethelstan, T. Leech.
4 Seedling, W. Sharp.
5 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Naylor.
6 General Napier, J. Wild.
7 Seedling, W. Chadwick.
8 Truth, J. Hilton.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Unknown, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 Seedling, S. Cocks.
3 Minerva (seedling), J. Naylor.
4 Mrs. Sherwin, J. Wild.
5 Sancta Sophia, W. Matley.
6 Princess Royal, S. Cocks.
7 Godet Parfait, J. Naylor.
8 Gibbons's Seedling, ditto.

Rose Breeders.

1 Duchess of Newcastle, J. W. Mellor.
2 Providence, J. Wild.
3 Providence Lass, ditto.
4 Lady Suffield, S. Cocks.
5 Lady Jane Grey, J. Naylor.
6 Anastasia, ditto.
7 Lady Stanley, W. Peacock, Esq.
8 Andromeda, T. Leech.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, W. Peacock, Esq.
1 White Flag, J. Wild.

Judges—Messrs. A. Clegg, R. Taylor, and G. Holland.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. S Cocks, Botanical Tavern, Ashton-under-Line, May 30.

Premiers.—Feathered, Newcastle, S. Stopford; Flamed, San Joe, A. Leech.

Maiden Prizes.

1 Bienfait, J. Lunn.
2 Polyphemus, S. Garside.
3 Seedling, J. Buckley.
4 Charles X., R. Whittaker.
5 Trafalgar, W Hilton.
6 Unknown, R. Garside.
7 Toot, J. Hilton.
8 Crown Prince, P. Moss.
9 Seedling, T Grainger.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Surpass Catafalque, J. Haigh.
2 Charles X., B. Haigh.
3 Rising Sun, A. Tomlinson.
4 Sidney, W. Matley.
5 Seedling, J. Buckley.
6 Trafalgar, W. Hilton.
7 Firebrand, J. L. Richardson.
8 Lord Lilford, W. Matley.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, A. Leech.
2 Polyphemus, S. Garside.
3 Lustre, A. Tomlinson.
4 Wellington, S. Stopford.
5 Unknown, R. Garside.
6 Rising Sun, S. Cocks, sen.
7 Surpass Lacantique, W. Hilton.
8 Albion, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Lunn.
2 Buckley Beauty, ditto.
3 La Belle Narene, W. Matley.

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4 Ambassador, A. Tomlinson.
5 Washington, S. Cocks, sen.
6 Baguet, J. Lunn.
7 Bordeaux, J. Haigh.
8 Toot, J. Hilton.

Flamed Byblæmens.

1 Violet Wallers, J. L. Richardson.
2 Gibbons's Catherine, W. Matley.
3 Louis XVI., J. Lunn.
4 Sable Rex, T. Leech.
5 Grace Darling, W. Wooller.
6 Bienfait, J. Haigh.
7 Elegance, W. Matley.
8 La Belle Narene, J. L. Richardson.

Feathered Roses.

1 Newcastle, S. Stopford.
2 Lady Crewe, S. Cocks, sen.
3 Comte, J. Lunn.
4 Lady Grey, S. Stopford.
5 Dolittle, T. Leech.
6 Heroine, A. Tomlinson.
7 Walworth, S. Stopford.
8 Hero of the Nile, R. Taylor.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, W. Wooller.
2 Vesta, W. Matley.
3 Triomphe Royale, A. Tomlinson.
4 Bacchus, W. Matley.
5 Aglaia, T. Leech.
6 Lord Hill, W. Matley.
7 Vandycken, S. Stopford.
8 Duke of Clarence, J. Haigh.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Polyphemus, W. Matley.
2 Beauty of Dovedale, S. Cox.
3 Earl Radnor, B. Haigh.
4 Duke of Hamilton, J. Wood.
5 Surpass Catafalque, B. Haigh.
6 Cato, P. Moss.

Byblæmen Breeders.

1 Buckley Beauty, R. Taylor.
2 Unknown, S. Garside.
3 Gibbons's Britannia, B. Haigh.
4 Princess Royal, W. Matley.
5 Maid of Athens, ditto.
6 Nestor, W. Wooller.

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, W. Matley.
2 Newcastle, S. Cocks.
3 Andromeda, J. Haigh.
4 Lady Crewe, B. Haigh.
5 Lady Jane Grey, R. Garside.
6 Seedling, T. Leech.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, P. Moss.
1 White Flag, S. Cocks.

Judges—Mr. S. Ardern, Hyde; Mr. J. Shawcross, Ashton; and Mr. John Hilton, Hooley-hill.

DERBY GOOSEBERRY SHOW.

The annual gooseberry show was held at the house of Mr. Williamson, Rose and Crown, Corn-market, July 31. The prizes were awarded to the following members.

Premier Prize, Heaviest of all Colours—Lakin's London..... 22dwt. 3gr.

Stewards' Prizes.

	dwt.	gr.
R. Smith's Companion	18	16
B Smith's Pilot	16	6
Salisbury's Thumper	17	10
Astle's Queen of Trumps	17	21

Red.

R. Smith's London	24	0
Lakin's Wonderful	20	9
Salisbury's Slaughterman	17	0
Astle's Conquering Hero	16	22
B. Smith's Atlas	16	17
B. Smith's Lion's Provider	16	12

Yellow.

Lakin's Betsy	18	22
Lakin's Goldfinder	18	21
R. Smith's Teazer	17	18
R. Smith's Catherine	17	11
Astle's Leader	16	1
Astle's Dublin	16	0

Green.

Lakin's Thumper	17	15
Salisbury's Rough Green	17	14
R. Smith's Bumper	17	12
Astle's Weathercock	15	20
B. Smith's Overall	14	6
Salisbury's Overall	14	4

White.

Lakin's Cossack	19	14
Salisbury's Snowball	18	0
B. Smith's Freedom	16	9
Salisbury's Lady Stanley	17	2
R. Smith's Lady Leicester	16	2
B. Smith's Coppice Lass	16	9

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TO OUR READERS.

We have now finished our third volume, and, to use the accustomed terms, though sorely hackneyed, *we take the opportunity of thanking our numerous friends, for their kind support; at the same time assuring them, that no exertion will be wanting on our part, to make the* Midland Florist and Suburban Horticulturist *a vehicle of sound information on every subject connected with horticulture and floriculture.* It is true we have had difficulties to encounter, prejudices to overcome, and no small amount of hindrance from quarters where such conduct was least expected; but fortunately for us, we "value such things at what they are worth," and we find that our little work still prospers, and our endeavours are appreciated by those whom we are always glad to serve. Had we conducted the *Midland Florist* with any mercenary motives, we should have given it up long ago; because it has been no profit to us, in a pecuniary point of view. We shall see what another year brings forth, and if each of our friends will recommend us, we shall sell four thousand where we sell two; and if they feel gratification in obtaining information at so cheap a rate, surely their philanthropy will direct others to the same source. We often

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receive letters from parties who say they are pleased with "the valuable little work," and we can assure them, that such testimony is highly gratifying to our feelings. Let any of our readers look through the index to the present volume, and we imagine that they will agree with us in thinking that the information is appropriate, varied, and interesting. We have especially to thank those friends who have contributed to our pages. Some will find that we have applied *the editorial shears;* and though they may not like it, yet we will not let our pages be the vehicle of personal attacks, if we can help it. We have erred once in this respect, but we hope never again to do so. For truly our beautiful avocation ought to *teach us something better.* We have some charity for the man who, in the heat of altercation and passion, asperses us; but the *premeditating libeller*, we must confess, we have little regard for, and we put him altogether without the pale of our good opinion. We shall, with the co-operation of our friends, still pursue the path we have marked out for ourselves. Inviting no hostility, entertaining no jealousy of other periodicals engaged in disseminating the same kind of information as ourselves (but whose endeavours we would gladly assist), we shall continue our unobtrusive way; and we earnestly hope that the *Midland Florist* may be prized when its editor is forgotten.

THE COPPICE, NOVEMBER 30TH, 1849.

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST,

AND

SUBURBAN HORTICULTURIST.

CONDUCTED BY

JOHN FREDERICK WOOD, F.H.S.

VOL. IV.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1850.

"To study culture, and with artful toil,
To meliorate and tame the stubborn soil;
To give dissimilar, yet fruitful lands,
The grain, or herb, or plant that each demands;
To cherish virtue in an humble state,
And share the joys your bounty may create;
To mark the matchless workings of the power
That shuts within its seed the future flower;
Bids these in form of elegance excel,
In colour these, and those delight the smell;
Sends nature forth, the daughter of the skies,
To dance on earth, and charm all human eyes;
To teach the canvass innocent deceit,
Or lay the landscape on the snowy sheet.—
These, these are arts pursued without a crime,
That leave no stain upon the wing of time."

COWPER.

LONDON:

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT.

1850.

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST.

Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

DESCRIPTION OF HALF-A-DOZEN APPLES GROWN IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

A SHORT time ago, we received a beautiful sample of apples, with descriptions, for which we are indebted to our friends, Mr. Hextall, and Mr. T. Brown, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch. As we are at all times most anxious to simplify the nomenclature of fruits, we are glad to insert the observations and remarks.

SPECIMEN No. 1. BROWN'S QUEEN CAROLINE.
SYNONYM—SPENCER'S FAVOURITE.

This apple was raised by my father, Mr. Timothy Brown, nurseryman, Measham, three miles from Ashby-de-la-Zouch. It was obtained from a quantity of pippins collected indiscriminately, so that it was not known from what kind it originated. As to the

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exact period when it was raised, history will best record the time. It first came into bearing, and was named by my father, at the time that unfortunate queen's name was so prominently before the public, in the "delicate investigation." It may perhaps interest you to know in what manner this apple came into the hands of Mr. John Spencer, of Adbolton. A quantity of stocks were worked in the nursery of Mr. William Hood, of Aslrby-de-la-Zouch, with grafts from the original tree. It was from this source that Mr. Spencer obtained his supply for his own growing, and with its proper name. It is due to the public that this should be made known, and that the fruit in question should in future be known by its *true name.* This purpose cannot be better effected than by the publication of these facts in the pages of your very popular and useful little work, which has hitherto, by its unflinching exposure of unfair practices, assisted materially towards their suppression. That there may be no doubt of the identity, I send you three apples, gathered from the *original tree,* at Measham, and three others from a younger tree, which are, of course, of finer growth, I believe this apple has not yet found a place in the catalogue of the Horticultural Society of London.

TIMOTHY BROWN.

Since writing the above, I am informed that a considerable quantity of this apple is now sent to the Birmingham market, out of Worcestershire, under the name of Brown's Seedling.

[Queen Caroline is certainly the same as the fruit known here as Spencer's Favourite, and we shall be glad to have any information bearing on the subject, from Mr. Spencer.—ED.]

2. DUMMELLER'S PIPPIN.

LOCAL SYNONYMS—DUMMELLER'S SEEDLING, DUMMELLER'S CRAB, KING OF THE CRABS, NORMANTON WONDER.

In the catalogue of the London Horticultural Society, this apple is named Dumelow's Seedling,

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with synonyms, Wellington, Duke of Wellington, Normanton Wonder. The above is the *correct orthography*. It was raised by *Mr. Richard Dummeller*, farmer, then residing at a farm house (standing by itself) known by the appellation of Hop John's Hill, in the parish of Swepston, Leicestershire; it is about a quarter of a mile from Measham Hall, the residence of W. W. Abney, Esq. and about three miles south of Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Mr. Richard Dummeller removed from this farm to one at Shuckerstone, in which he was succeeded by his son, Mr. Richard Dummeller, recently deceased. Mr. Richard Spencer, of Snareston, succeeded to the farm at Hop John's Hill, and it is still in the possession of that family. The original apple tree is still standing there, and three specimens of fruit gathered from that tree are herewith sent, together with three from a younger tree. When a youth, I was sent by my father to Hop John's Hill, to obtain grafts from Mr. Dummeller's tree, to work in my father's nursery. The tree had at that time a bole (stem) of about the thickness of a person's thigh, and showed slight symptoms of canker, to which it is liable, when grown on a cold substratum. Mr. Dummeller took pleasure in supplying grafts from what he called his "Pippin," or his "Crab." It may not be uninteresting to attempt to trace by what means it obtained the name of Normanton Wonder. The following is the most probable:—Mr. Heafield, a market gardener, residing at Normanton-on-Soar, was a native of Packington, and occasionally visited his friends at that place. Mr. Walker, nurseryman, of Packington (which is within a mile of Hop John's Wood), worked the apple, and sold it very freely. By him it was supplied to Mr. Heafield, of *Normanton*, and the probability is, that this handsome and useful variety soon became popular in certain markets, to which it was supplied from *that locality*.

TIMOTHY BROWN.

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3. The Packington Summer Broading.

This is a handsome-looking early autumn fruit, chiefly for kitchen, but occasionally for table. It is in use from September to December, and is a favourite market fruit in its own locality. The tree is a strong hardy free grower, rather spreading; comes into bearing early, and bears freely. It is not known whether it originated at Packington, or had been introduced there at a remote period; the tree from which the present stock has been derived, stood, sixty years since, in the garden of Mr. Toplis, of Packington, and had then the appearance of being of great age. The fruit sent as a specimen was gathered on the 17th of October, in an orchard which had been planted about twenty years, and has been for many years laid down in pasturage.

TIMOTHY BROWN.

[The specimens were very handsome. We have known it many years as Walker's Summer Broading.]

4. (Name not *certainly* known.)

The original tree of this neighbourhood is standing in the garden of W. Dawes, Esq. of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, where it was planted more than forty years since, by Mr. Webster, attorney, and was only known as Webster's Apple. Tradition says it came with others from France. It is of strong growth, a *regular* and *heavy* bearer, and in good seasons frequently attains to sixteen ounces; it is a good kitchen apple, and retains its flavour to May or June. Soon after this fruit came into bearing in Mr. Webster's garden, it was worked from, and plants furnished to Mr. Stirling the elder, gardener to the first Marquis of Hastings, at Donington Park; and from this source it spread through the surrounding neighbourhood, and now I believe "its name is legion." It was given to me about twenty years since, by the late Mr. Mee, of Sheepshead, under the name of Royal George. A year or two afterwards, I showed the

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fruit to Mr. William Oldham, then foreman to Mr. Warner, Abbey Gardens, Leicester, and he said he believed it was the same apple that was in their collection under the name of Martin's Costard. At a floral and horticultural exhibition, at Ashby, in 1835, it was shown by Mr. Wm. Bryan, of Ticknall, as Warren's Green Apple. It is a valuable apple, and if its correct name is known to you, we shall be obliged by your communicating it.

J. D. H.

[This we grow under the name of Royal George. It is not now much cultivated in this neigbourhood, being considered an idle bearer; it attains a large size, and the specimens sent were very good.]

5. Blenheim Pippin, or, as known here, Blenheim Orange.

This you are, no doubt, well acquainted with, and I have wondered you have not recommended it. It is, I believe, considered a Worcestershire apple; the trees in this neighbourhood are from grafts obtained originally from that county, where the fruit, which is sent to the Birmingham and other midland markets, is, when in condition, superb indeed. I have seen it exceedingly fine near Stratford-on-Avon. The three larger specimens are from an espalier, at Ashby, grown under the shade of a strong north hedge, of course wanting sun; the other three are from a young tree, with a full crop, in a common orchard, with a thick rusty turf. Even upon our cold subsoils it is a valuable fruit; how fine then might it be produced on your warmer substratums.

J. D. H.

[The specimens were very fine. The only drawback to the Blenheim Orange is its spreading habit, which unfits it for small gardens, unless as an espalier. It has been a good season for this fruit. In the Kentish orchards the trees were very heavily laden, and in this neighbourhood it was "a hit;" but generally speaking they do not bear well until they are at least twenty years old.]

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6. A Russet Seedling, from Mr. Walker, of Packington.

As Mr. Walker understood that Mr. Brown was sending you some samples of apples, he requested that a specimen of a russet, raised by himself, and which he is now marketing, might accompany them. The half-dozen were sent to me without any particulars, and the package has been kept back on that account. It has much the appearance of being closely related to the Bess Pool, but on trial it is decidedly a russet in texture. If you think it worthy of further notice, I will obtain you particulars. Mr. W. has two or three other seedlings, which he is marketing; one of them is a useful and good-flavoured fruit, but its appearance is not prepossessing.

J. D. H.

[This is a very handsome apple; crimson next the sun, with deep russet, rather conical in shape, and likely to make a very saleable fruit. We should be glad to hear what name Mr. Walker intends giving it, in order that we may lay it before our readers.]

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Prince of the Netherlands.—(Noticed vol. 2, page 309.) The ground a warm chrome or orange yellow, the markings not a decided red, but more of a bright red ochre; its general character a fine pencilled star, with a little feather, sometimes feathered as described. I admire the pencilled star, moreover it is richer in that state.

George IV. (Holmes).—This may be termed a well-done thing; the ground good white, and the marking flame and feather, nicely pencilled with a delicate violet blue; rather shy of increase, a second-row flower. £3 3s.

Duke of Norfolk (Groom).—Third-row bizarre. Shape good, good beam and flame, with a little feathering of a dark brown; occasionally all feather. £5 5s.

General Jackson.—A large-cupped fourth-row bizarre. Drawback, slightly stained; it is, nevertheless, a decent bed flower.

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Captain Cator (Lyde).—Second or third-row bizarre. Good cup, the ground not brilliant, but clean, the marking bold and strong, flame dark brown. Not in Lawrence's catalogue.

Habit Nuptial.—A very good byblœmen. Dark feather and flame, with me noted fine two seasons. First-row. 5s.

Patrockus.—Third-row byblœmen. Tolerably steady as to marking, which is flame and feather; not so in colour, sometimes light plum, and in another season very dark and rich.

David Wilkie (Groom).—Third-row bizarre. Sometimes flame and feather, and feather only; when you get it in character, good; nevertheless, it is a very sad sporter. 3s. 6d.

Rubini (Groom).—Second-row bizarre. Ground orange, marking flame and feather, occasionally a distinct sharp feather only, a beauty in the latter state. £5 5s.

Tour de Babel (Davy).—Fourth-row bizarre. Flamed. The ground bleaches. 5s.

Zoe (Strong).—First-row byblœmen. Occasionally very fine, but a sporter. 5s.

Gog.—Fourth-row bizarre. Of the ordinary Milton character.

Homer (Groom).—Second-row byblœmen. Sharp fine marking, much after Madelina, but not so dark, the white extra pure, and petals thick. I have grown it now some years, without any increase. This is a favourite. £3 3s.

Lyndhurst (Lyde).—A striking flower, in the bed, it stands a third-row bizarre. The ground orange yellow, well laid on, and the marking a bright brown flame, with a little feather. £2 2s.

Madge Wildfire (Franklin).—First or second-row high-coloured rose, flamed. 10s. or 15s.

Lord Melbourne (May).—By the raiser second or third-row bizarre, with me a stout bulb, comes a tall fourth-row flower, the marking a brown flame. 5s.

Mary Ann (Goldham).—A fine dark and rich violet flamed second-row byblœmen, indisputably a first-rate thing. £5 5s.

Comte de Vergennes.—Known to almost all growers as a prettily-marked fourth-row rose, sadly defective in shape, having pointed reflexed petals.

A WORKING MAN'S DELIGHT IN HIS GARDEN.

THE following is part of a letter we have received from one of our correspondents:—

"One mile from my house is my garden ground, to which, after my labour is over, I walk every evening, for six months in the year, except on Saturdays, when

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I reach it shortly after noon; and wheresoever I go, my heart and it are never divided. Here I employ my time marking my flowers sweet and fair, the soul of every blessing! watering and keeping them clean, humming and singing round their beds, and my bees humming round my gay roses. Here I can despise the world and all its wealth, as empty idle care."

Now if such feelings as these could be engendered, would not any means that could be devised to give our adult population gardens be desirable? We have often thought that in this lies the grand secret of the moral regeneration of society. Would it not be possible, near all large towns, for the corporate body to provide a given quantity of land (say one hundred acres), lay it out in squares, make the roads, plant the trees, &c., and build a large room in the centre, in which to deliver lectures on subjects connected with gardening, and to hold exhibitions of produce at stated seasons? A library, containing the various gardening periodicals, &c. should also be attached. We would engage that the plots would all speedily be taken, and who can tell the amount of good which would result from such a plan? If well carried out, we are sure there would soon be more health, happiness, and sobriety, with less demands on people's pockets, in the shape of rates for the prevention and punishment of vice and immorality. We really wish this plan were taken up in every parish in the country; but, unless actuated by other than interested motives, not, as near Nottingham, by private individuals, who thus obtain a yearly rent of from twenty to thirty pounds per acre for their land, though at the same time we do not dispute the right of any man to make the best he can of his property. To be of general good, it should be undertaken either by government or corporate bodies, and the land let at a price to meet the reduced means of the artizan and labourer. Everyone who loves his country and his fellow men, should advocate this system. Everyone who grieves at or suffers from the depravity and

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misery which idleness brings in its train—everyone who would see the mind of the lower orders elevated and improved, should join with us in advocating this, "*the first stepping-stone*" to so desirable a consummation.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES

BY H. S. M.

I HAVE often had a desire to give you my opinion of the carnations and picotees which I grow, or which come under my observation, but you must bear in mind that it is a midland counties opinion, and therefore open to objection by more southern growers. Still I do not advance my ideas, believing that *I only* know *what is good* and *what is not;* but, after a series of years of close observation, I am led to think, comparing the result of our exhibitions with those of other counties, that I am not far off the mark. If my ideas coincide with those of my brother florists, I shall be most happy to find that I am so far right; and if wrong, I shall be doubly thankful for any correction they may give me. I will, in the first place, begin with scarlet bizarres, a splendid class of flowers, and though the white is generally deficient, improvement in this particular is taking place, and their high and rich colours render them peculiarly attractive.

Appleby's Prince of Wales.—High in colour, tolerable form, but quite out of question, from the muddiness of its ground, or *white.* When this flower first came out, it was much thought of, but now it has found its level. I should call it a third-rate variety.

Christian's Isonia.—This is a rather thin sort, with petals more narrow than I like; but then the white is good, and the markings decided. It ought to be more generally cultivated.

Willmer's Conquering Hero.—An old flower, a sort that will not live in a contest with many new varieties. It has some good points, but the colours are dull. I shall not grow it again.

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Colcutt's Brutus.—When grown strong, this is extremely coarse, and should a young beginner bloom it thus, after having heard a high character of it, he will be led to suppose he is *done.* I always leave four buds, after I have pulled off the main or upper one, on each plant, by which means its strength is more equably diffused, and better and neater flowers are the result. It is, however, under any circumstances, but a second-rate flower.

Rainforth's Gameboy.—Thin enough, but a *clipper,* when right. It has been in cultivation some years, but is generally prized for its brilliant and decided marking.

Holliday's Lord Rancliffe.—A Northampton flower, and a very good one too. It is large, the white good, and the marone and scarlet pretty equally distributed; independent of which, it is a robust and healthy sort, throwing out many layers. No florist ought to be without this variety, it is a safe competing flower. I think it was named about the time the Odd Fellows from the midland counties went to Northampton. Lord Rancliffe is, or was, Grand Master of the order, therefore I imagine it was in commemoration of the visit that it was thus named.

Hoyle's Duke of Leeds I shall not again grow. The white is very indifferent, independent of its being absolutely too thin of petals, even for a north countryman like myself. A fourth-rate flower.

Elliott's Duke of Sutherland is rather narrow in the petal; still the beautiful contrast of a tolerably good white with its richer markings, render it a desirable variety.

Lee's Colonel.—This will not do. The ground colour is often as "yellow as a primrose," and even in its best character, is "a dingy lot." Fourth-rate, a sort I would not recommend to the competitor who was my greatest rival, or who I might suppose would eclipse me the ensuing autumn.

Ely's Jolly Dragoon.—A coarse flower, but often splendid; a variety that has won as many first prizes as any in cultivation. It is true that some other sorts, to which I shall presently allude, have eclipsed it, yet it should be grown by everyone.

Hepworth's Hamlet.—Grows tall, and makes long spindling layers. It is too full naturally for me, though petals may be pulled out to make it passable, but this I do not like. The best flower, in my opinion, is that which requires the least extraction. I do not esteem it more than a second-rate flower.

Hale's Prince Albert.—A very large flower, rather dull in colour, petals inclined to be long, but when well grown, an attractive sort. Hardly more than second-rate, yet it must be grown.

Hepworth's Leader.—A gem in its way, one of the earliest flowers of this cultivator. White good, and the marking beautiful, but unfortunately undersized.

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Hepworth's True Briton is a very showy variety, colour generally well distributed, and strongly marked. It is apt to come with a rough serrated edge; I have, however, seen it very good. It is also a luxuriant and hardy sort.

Easom's Admiral Curzon.—I really do not know a better flower than this; yet there may be, and I should be most happy to see it, or even to hear of it. Rich in both the scarlet and marone, the white far above the average, form good, and when well done, first-rate.

Hufton's Patriarch.—This old sort, when strongly grown, will take some beating; in its day, it was considered first-rate, but the preceding variety, with some others, so effectually "take the shine out of it," that though sorry to place it there, the second rank must be its station.

Martin's Splendid.—A really fine old variety, rather thin petals, slightly cupped, conspicuous for the purity of its ground colour, at a time when there were fewer of that character than now. Occasionally there is too great a preponderance of white. Some years ago, there was much talk of the respective merits of Don John and Splendid; whatever might be the feeling then, it appears now to be pretty generally admitted, that Splendid is the better flower.

Kay's Omnium Primus.—A Lancashire flower of some pretensions in that quarter of the world, but even there thought quite thin enough. It is highly coloured and well marked, apt to run, or become self-coloured; I have, however, grown it fine, though not so often as I think I ought to have done, from the care bestowed on it.

Merchant's Don John.—A regularly bad sort, and I only mention it here, that others may not be disappointed with it as I have been. If a bad white, dingy colours, indecision of character, coarseness, and want of a sufficient number of petals, were ever concentrated in one flower, this most assuredly is the variety. How or why dealers put it in their catalogues, I cannot comprehend, for sure am I that purchasers would have, according to the present ideas of perfection, but a sorry opinion of that man's judgment who sent it for a good sort. I cannot refer your readers to a better criterion of what they ought to purchase, than those flowers which generally take the lead in your lists of exhibitions; that I take to be one of the safest guides, and therefore ought to be greatly prized by your subscribers.

Holliday's Grand Master.—A fine and highly-coloured variety. I have, however, only bloomed it one season, but from what I have seen, I entertain a good opinion of it, though I do not like it so much as Lord Rancliffe, previously alluded to.

I have now noticed twenty varieties, and should you hear that these remarks are agreeable to your readers, I will continue them through the classes.

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ROCK PLANTS.

BY THE EDITOR.

We have been applied to by several readers, for names and descriptions of some of the cheapest and most easily-cultivated plants for rock-work, we will, therefore, name a dozen, to begin with. We often see large-growing things planted on situations of this kind, which, though they florish, are quite out of place, throwing their large foliage about in all directions, and often smothering *beauties* of more humble growth. Now our ideas of rock plants are of those of compact and dwarf habit, of such a size as we might presume they would attain on a rocky surface, where soil for the roots was not likely to exist in large quantities. In the crevices and on the ledges of the rock on which Nottingham castle stands, may be seen in summer time, an abundance of the Silene medicaulis, with its pretty pink flowers; and though the single wall-flower flourishes in the same locality, still we think that plants of a similar character to the first-named, are more adapted for the purpose of our friends who require information on the subject. Some of the campanulas, or bell-flowers, are very neat and pretty, though in the open borders they are objectionable, from the circumstance of their roots running in every direction, and being as difficult to eradicate as *couch grass*.

Erinus Hispanicus. (The Spanish Erinus.)—A very neat and interesting plant, rising, when in bloom, to three or four inches, bearing pink flowers, in April and May. It seeds freely, and will establish itself readily on old walls.

Linaria Cymbalaria. (The Cymbalaria Toadflax.)—Of this really beautiful creeping rock plant we know three varieties: the common, with lilac flowers, one with pure white blossoms, and another with the foliage finely variegated. As far back as we can well recollect, we remember our youthful fancy being struck with it at the Oatlands, the residence of the late Duke of York, this beautiful plant running over the then splendid grotto. This and the Duchess of York's tombstones over her favourite dogs, which were buried in the vicinity, were the two most striking objects in our schoolboy imagina-

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tion. We once saw the common Linaria cymbalaria make a most beautiful and interesting window blind. In the sitting-room of a relative, a small box, made exactly in the form of those used for mignonette, was fastened to the upper part of the window, and filled with plants of this variety, which, by regular attention, threw their long pendent tresses over the sides of the box nearly to the bottom of the window. We think that many of our readers who are fond of plants might try the experiment, and we feel certain they would be highly gratified. The variegated variety is apparently more difficult to keep than the preceding, neither does it make such long and luxuriant shoots; nevertheless, it is a beautiful thing, and ought to be grown wherever a suitable situation offers.

Saxifraga Oppositifolia (The Opposite-leaved Saxifrage), is really a *gem*. Its compact foliage looks like a bed of moss, studded with brilliants, for its bright pink blossoms, produced in the most lavish profusion, form a contrast at once neat and strikingly beautiful. There are two other varieties, but we do not think either are so good as this; the foliage is the same, but one has paler flowers, which, by the by, is no recommendation, and the other is white. They are all in an eminent degree deserving of cultivation.

Arabis Lucida Variegata (The Variegated Shining-leaved Wall Cress) is another most interesting plant. Its flowers are of themselves comparatively inconspicuous, but the foliage is green, striped with yellow; of neat and compact habit, and, winter and summer, always attractive.

The Campanula Cæspitosa (The Tufted Bell-flower) is very neat in habit, almost mosslike, with fairy bells of blue. A most interesting little plant.

Campanula Hederacea (The Ivy-leaved Bell-flower) is another of similar character, and well adapted for situations where rock plants are desirable. As its specific name implies, its leaves are like ivy, though very diminutive. The flowers are blue, and it is of very neat and compact habit.

Polygonum Vaccinifolium.—We noticed this in our last year's volume, but it really is so beautiful, and, comparatively speaking, so new, as well as peculiarly adapted for rock-work, that we are sure our readers will excuse us for reminding them of it. In the open border, in our nursery, till the frosts of November came, this pretty trailing evergreen threw up spikes of flowers, like *delicate pink feathers*. Every amateur who admires these plants would willingly give double the price of our present number to be made acquainted with this excellent variety.

Phlox Nivalis. (The Snowy Phlox.)—Pure white flowers, the foliage narrow, and the stem procumbent, having a very bristly appearance; and *Phlox Subulata* (The Awl-leaved Phlox), something in the same style, but the flowers are pink.

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Potentilla Tonguii.—A strikingly pretty plant for this purpose. A hybrid, raised some years ago. Its habit is compact, and foliage neat. It bears a profusion of nankeen or buff flowers, with a dark crimson spot at the base of each petal, and will contrast well with the varieties previously enumerated.

Cerastium Alpinum. (The Alpine Mouse-eared Chickweed.)—Differing from anything else previously enumerated. The flowers are white, and produced on erect stalks, from two to three inches in height; the foliage is hoary and compact, and though perhaps rather common, it is a very pretty and interesting plant.

Statice Araratii (The Mount Ararat Thrift) is very pretty, with rigid bristlelike foliage. It produces a quantity of neat pink flowers, and ought to be in every select collection.

After having made the above enumeration perhaps we shall only have half done what is required of us, unless we state what is the probable price. With the exception of Linaria cymbalaria variegata, Statice Araratii, and Polygonum vaccinifolium, the whole ought to be purchased at sixpence each, and those mentioned would not exceed one shilling and sixpence each, and, we should suppose, may be procured of most nurserymen.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

Cloth of Gold Plum (Esperin).—A very fine Belgian variety, originated from seed, by the late M. Esperin, of Malines, to whom we are indebted for so many excellent pears, &c. He was the Andrew Knight of Belgium, and this is another offspring of his indefatigable exertions in the cause of horticulture. It ripens in September, and is a very handsome as well as a fine-flavoured plum.

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THE PEARL.—A NEW BLACK GRAPE.—This is said to be a promising variety. The bunches are long, requiring but little thinning; rich and of good flavour. Introduced from Portugal, a few years ago.

PRINCE ALBERT GOOSEBERRY.—This is a variety raised in Northumberland, and therefore we need not fear its well-doing in the midland counties. It is in the style of the Warrington, dark red, handsome, and of good flavour; and though not coming under the denomination of a prize gooseberry, yet it will be extensively planted for cropping as a market fruit.

HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS.

ILEX NIGRESCENS.—As its name implies, with very dark foliage, this is a most interesting variety; in fact, all the hollies are beautiful, especially at this time of the year.

PHILLYREA CRISPA.—A singular sport of the well-known phillyrea. It has curled foliage, and a rather stunted appearance. We cannot recommend it for its beauty.

GENISTA TINCTORIA FLORE PLENO. *(The Double Dyer's Broom.)*—An interesting prostrate shrub, with double flowers, well adapted for rockwork, and when tied up, a most excellent plant to mix with perennials. But we mention it more particularly here as an excellent companion for the weeping cytisuses, or standard roses. When grafted on a four or five feet stem, it is a most graceful small pendulous tree.

CRATÆGUS PENDULA NOVA. *(The New Weeping Thorn.)*—The old variety is called "Queen Mary's." This sort is lately introduced, and the branches are much more drooping, with longer and more thickly-set thorns. It promises to be a valuable acquisition to our hardy weeping trees.

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ARISTOLOCHIA SEMPERVIRENS.—An evergreen climbing plant, of excellent dense habit, the foliage heart-shaped and very glossy. We have just received a plant, and think highly of it.

VEGETABLES.

SNOW'S COMPACT COSS LETTUCE.—Large and of excellent quality, being one of the most crisp, and bleaches beautifully.

CHELTENHAM SURPRISE CUCUMBER.—This most excellent and free-bearing variety will often produce fruit beyond twenty inches in length, and that too in great profusion.

CHERRY'S GOLIATH CUCUMBER.—A first-rate variety, attains a great length.

HOWDEN'S SUPERB PURPLE BROCCOLI.—Very hardy and of compact growth. Excellent.

PERKINS'S CRIMSON BEET.—The colour is very beautiful, and altogether it is considered the best variety grown.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

THE COCKSCOMB ASH.—With a young plant of this singular monstrosity, we received a *comb*, cut from a tree of a few year's growth. Occasionally we see similar singular conformations in the broom; this is, however, perpetuated by grafting, and to those who are fond of such things, we would recommend it.

ROBINSON'S COMET CARNATION.—A seedling scarlet flake, of very considerable promise; the colour brilliant, the flakes regular and well defined, having four or five distinct ribbons in each petal.

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A Rose Flake Carnation, from Messrs. Scholefield, of Leeds. We received no name with it, and consequently were undecided whether we should notice it in this part of our work. The colour is peculiar and distinct, with plenty of petal, forming a large and noble flower. We shall be glad to record the name in our next number, if the Messrs. S. will supply it.

Moore's Harriet Picotee.—The guard petals of this flower are very broad, and the marking strong and decided; somewhat in the Fanny Irby style, but a better flower.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF VINES IN GREENHOUSES.

BY MR. JAMES HUTCHISON.

The vine has been successfully cultivated in pine-stoves and vine-houses, in Britain, for many years, but its culture in the greenhouse has not been attended with equal success. This may proceed from various causes, such as the condition of the vine-border, improper temperature, aeration, &c. If the border be imperfectly drained, or the soil exhausted, the first thing to do is to remove the earth of the border to the depth of three feet, if on a sloping surface; but if flat, two feet will be quite sufficient. It should not be less than fifteen feet wide.

It is impossible to lay down an invariable rule as to the depth of soil which ought to be removed in every case, but I wish it to be distinctly understood, that it is not necessary to dig a deep pit, as some do, for the purpose of filling it up with a mass of materials through which the sun's heat will never

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penetrate; for although such a border may be made of the best composition, it cannot be called a good border. When the old soil is cleaned out, a good drain should be made along the front of the border.

In forming the new border, the bottom part should have a good slope, and should be covered about ten inches deep with rough stones. Over the stones place a covering of furze, with the bushy side uppermost and the woody part under. A row of turf should be placed upon the furze, with the grassy side downwards. This will form an effectual and permanent drainage to every part of the border.

The new border should be composed of fibrous turf, leaf soil, and horse dung, which should be filled in to the depth of four feet, as it will finally subside to about three feet. It is unnecessary to prescribe the proportions of the above ingredients to be used, as that must depend on circumstances. Leaf soil is generally a scarce substance, and therefore, should the loam be of a strong quality, it should be mixed with light soil, as much of a vegetable nature as possible, keeping in view the principle that the composition should be sufficiently porous.

If the old vines have been growing in a wet soil, or a great portion of their roots are decayed or rotten, I would recommend in planting them, to lay a portion of the stem across the border, and peg it down with strong pegs, about six inches deep. As to what length ought to be laid down in this manner, that will depend on the state of the old vine. The lower part of neglected vines is generally bare of young wood, perhaps half way up the main stem, and even beyond that some of the spurs may be exhausted. I would therefore plant so as to have a a good fresh shoot at the entrance of the vine into the house, or at least at the foot of the rafter. This shoot should be cut down to two or three eyes, and if all go on well, it will throw from twenty to thirty feet the first season. If young vines are required, good strong plants should be procured from a respectable

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nursery, and planted about the beginning of March. The roots should be well spread out, and three feet of the stem laid down horizontally, six inches in the ground.

The sorts most suitable for a greenhouse are,

Black Hamburgh.	Black Prince Hamburgh.
Black Prince.	White Sweetwater.

[To be continued.]

Journal of the Horticultural Society

EARLY BLOOMING GLADIOLI.

[*From the Florist.*]

From not seeing any particular notice of the interesting gladiolus tribe in your periodical, I have been induced to write these few stray thoughts for your journal, as I think this flower cannot yet be sufficiently known or esteemed, and although it does not rank as a florists' flower, a remark or two may not prove unacceptable to some of your readers. There are now in cultivation, I see by Van Houtte's catalogue, nearly one hundred named varieties, independent of a multitude of hybrids, not considered distinct enough to bear names, so that it cannot be said they are uninteresting on account of their sameness. I think a division has become necessary, to distinguish the early varieties from those blooming late in the autumn. The early varieties commence flowering in June, and nearly all resemble one another in habit, having graceful foliage, with long slender spikes of flowers, continuing in succession for some time. There is a great variety of colours in this division, from the brilliant though shy blooming Cardinalis, to the rich blood-crimson peculiar to Rex rubrorum. As the last of the early varieties fade away, they are succeeded by the more noble autumn species, fewer in number, though infinitely surpassing them in splendour and utility in decking

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borders. Who that has seen a clump of Gandavensis, with perhaps more than twenty spikes of its rich orange and scarlet blossoms, can say this flower is unworthy of attention? As this is now nearly planting time for those in the first class, I will describe a few varieties calculated to make a good display. First must come Insignis, indeed a noble flower, of a very bright orange rose, with beautiful stripes up each lobe; Ramosus, Rosa mundi, Vitellinus, and Minerva, are something similar to Insignis, but all varied in some way. Elegans, Curviflorus, Herbertii, Robin Hood, and Speciosus are all conspicuous for a distinct white stripe, on a rich pink salmon ground; and Loddigesii, Habranthus, and Augustus, with the same colours, have a beautiful crimson stripe alternating with the white. Trimaculatus and Venus are of a delicate cream, each with handsome pink stripes. Colvillii has a habit peculiar to itself alone, and is one of the earliest to bloom; it is of a beautiful pink and crimson, striped with yellow. There are now two hybrids of it, Colvillii superbus and Colvillii blandus, both distinct varieties, the latter much darker and richer in shading. Albus and Nanus are the nearest approaches to white, the latter beautifully striped with crimson. I now come to a new variety, I believe named Rex rubrorum, raised by Mr. Ball, of Taunton, which, perhaps, for novelty and magnificence, ought to be placed first. It is of beautiful form, and peculiar rich dark crimson; and I am led to think that by crossing this with some of the other named early varieties, we shall obtain a welcome addition to our collections. There are some other new varieties, raised and sent out by Van Houtte, but I have not succeeded in flowering any particularly worthy of notice. I have now given a list of a few select early varieties, and if a few remarks on the planting will be considered worthy of insertion, I will add a few words. To ensure brilliancy and a long continuance of bloom, they should be planted out of doors, as I find, under glass, they do not

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possess either of the above qualities. All the varieties with I have named are hardy with me, having a light soil; but with a slight protection, they will stand the winter anywhere—a little dry litter distributed over the ground will suffice. They should be planted by the end of the present month (October), or commencement of November, but the autumn varieties should not be planted till the spring. They will succeed and bloom in almost any soil, but if heavy, a proportion of sand will be found beneficial. Some of the sorts increase very fast, and I hope some day they will be sold by the hundred, like tulips, &c. but at present they are priced from about one shilling to five shillings a root. The hybrid varieties are to be had much cheaper, and are worthy of cultivation. If the above remarks give satisfaction, I shall be happy at another time to send a list of the autumn-blooming varieties.

ORION.

GROUPING PLANTS IN FLOWER BEDS.

As you seem in your last number to invite correspondents to record the result of their experience in the growing and grouping of bedding plants, I, as an humble individual and occasional correspondent, beg to mention a few things which have occurred to me on this subject. In the first place, as to the scarlet geranium. I have as yet, for brightness of colour, compact growth, and dwarfness of habit, found none to compare with Tom Thumb; this is more especially seen in neat and small gardens, in small beds on trim and well kept lawns, for decorating which it is exceedingly suitable. For large beds, where a great mass of flower is required, there may be introduced, with good effect, in the middle, a few plants of a taller kind, such as Collins's or Rigby's Queen. Lucia rosea (pink) is a shy flowerer compared with those above mentioned, and I think is ill adapted for showing at a distance, but may be introduced with effect into the

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general border. I cannot understand how you can recommend for a calceolaria, to show at a distance, the lemon-coloured Amplexicaulis. I am of opinion that a good yellow calceolaria is (except the scarlet geranium) the very showiest of all bedding plants; but then it must be a *bright* yellow, such as Viscosissima, or Kayne's seedling—the latter the best *yellow* calceolaria in cultivation for bedding. None of your lemon-colours for me, especially for a distant bed. I have tried all kinds of blue flowers as bedding plants, but have not as yet met with any exactly suitable. To the Salvia patens there are great objections; the blue is not seen at a distance, although a splendid colour in reality; the first things which catch the eye are the long ugly stalks which are sure to be there unless great attention be paid to keep them cut off. I doubt if blue can ever be used as a colour for a distant bed, and I cannot call the Ageratum Mexicanum which you dignify with the title of a good blue, a good bedding plant; moreover, the flowers instead of being a good blue, are, to my fancy, of a decided lilac hue. The Heliotropium Voltairianum has a very good decided colour, but the growth is so very far from what is desirable in a bed, being loose and straggling, that I have decided against using it again. The different kinds of Anagallis do not answer either, for the blue turns a muddy red, and only one can be prevailed upon to open in the sunshine; they are, besides, easily damaged by rain. A really good blue bedding plant is one of the greatest wants which gardeners experience for a parterre: and I do hope that, now that the failure of the much vaunted Plumbago Larpentæ as a bedding flower, seems decided by all gardeners, some kind souls will set their wits to work in earnest to procure a better. The best bedding plant that I know, but which is far from perfection, and of no use for distant effect, is the Lobelia grandiflora. The Zauchneria Californica I have tried, but though likely to be useful for rockwork, &c., I think it hardly showy enough in colour, and the flowers seem to be too modest, and court retirement. I propose to try

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as bedding flowers, next spring, the two Lantanas crocea and Sellowii, which have hitherto been thought too tender, but I shall not put them out too soon.

Gardener's and Farmer's Journal.

CARNATION SHOW.

The florists of Derby held a second exhibition of carnations and picotees, at the house of Mr. S. Newbold, Star and Garter Inn, Derby, on Thursday, August 8th, 1849.

Six Carnations and Six Picotees.—1. Admiral Curzon, Paul Pry, William Penn, Premier, Lord Talbot, and Tomlyn's Brisies; Sir William Middleton, Lakin's Emma (Rose), Fanny Irby, May's Portia, Seedling, and President, Mr. Samuel Lakin. 2. Rainbow, Prince Albert, Lord Talbot, Premier, Duke of Bedford, and Major Cartwright; Sir William Middleton, Mr. Traher, Isabella, Princess Alice, Duke of Newcastle, and Princess Royal, Mr. Broughton. 3. Admiral Curzon, Seedling, William IV., Ely's Prince of Wales, 'Squire Meynell, and Flora; Parkenson's Mary Ann, Seedling, Isabella, Enchantress, Unknown, and Princess Royal, Mr. Parkenson.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

Premier—Admiral Curzon, Mr. Fisher.
1 Seedling No. 1, Mr. Broughton.
2 Seedling No. 2, ditto.
3 Seedling No. 1, ditto.
4 Duke of Sutherland, Mr. Fisher.
5 Seedling, Mr. Parkenson.

Crimson Bizarres.

Premier—Duke of Bedford, Mr. Fisher.
1 Wood's William IV., Mr. Broughton.
2 Duke of Bedford, Mr. Parkenson.
3 Duke of Kent, Mr. Lakin.
4 Seeding, Mr Parkenson.
5 Seedling, ditto.

Purple Flakes.

Premier—Millward's Premier, Mr. Parkenson,
1 Martin's President, Mr. Broughton
2 Miss Thornton, Mr. Parkenson.
3 Wm. Penn, Mr. Lakin.
4 Napoleon, ditto.
5 'Squire Meynell, Mr. Fisher.

Scarlet Flakes.

Premier—Wilson's William IV., Mr. Fisher.
1 Chadwick's Brilliant, Mr. Parkenson.
2 Wilson's William IV., Mr. Lakin.
3 Lydia, Mr. Broughton.
4 Ringleader, Mr. Lakin.
5 Cresswell's Premier, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

Premier—Tomlyn's Brisies, Mr. Lakin.
1 Lord Talbot, Mr. Broughton.
2 Lovely Ann, ditto.
3 Apollo, ditto.
4 Seedling, Mr. Parkenson.
5 Lovely Mary, Mr. Lakin.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.

Premier—Mary Ann, Mr. Parkenson
1 Isabella, Mr. Fisher.
2 Prospero, Mr. Parkenson.
3 Privateer, Mr. Lakin.
4 Sir Wm. Middleton, Mr. Broughton.
5 Seedling, Mr. Parkenson.

Light edged Red.

Premier—Unique, Mr. Broughton.
1 Seedling, Mr. Fisher.
2 Mrs. Horner, Mr. Lakin.
3 Sharpe's Gem, ditto.

Heavy-edged Purple.

Premier—Princess Alice, Mr. Broughton.
1 Princess Alice, Mr. Lakin.
2 Ditto. Mr. Parkenson.
3 Nulli Secundus, Mr. Lakin.
4 Princess Alice, Mr. Parkenson
5 President, ditto.

Light-edged Purple.

Premier—Enchantress, Mr. Parkenson.
1 L'Elegant, Mr. Fisher.
2 Seedling, Mr. Parkenson,
3 Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Lakin.

Heavy-edged Roses.

Premier—Princess Royal, Mr. Fisher.
1 Fanny Irby, Mr. Broughton.
2 Ditto. Mr. Fisher.
3 Ditto. Mr. Parkenson.
4 Ely's King of Roses, Mr. Lakin.

Light-edged Roses.

Premier—Lakin's Emma, Mr. Lakin.
1 Lady Alice Peel, Mr. Broughton.
2 Maid of Orleans, Mr. Lakin.

Judges—Thos. Adams, Esq., and E. S. Dodswell.

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REVIEWS.

THE FLORIST. Edited by E. Beck, Esq.

THIS very excellent periodical has just completed its second volume, and a more attractive work on florists' and other flowers is seldom met with. The plates are beautifully executed, and are faithful portraits of some of the leading favourites in geraniums, verbenas, carnations, cinerarias, pansies, dahlias, and miscellaneous plants; and the wood-cuts, illustrative of the text, which are liberally sprinkled throughout the volume, are a great addition to its interest. We are most happy to hear that its sale is increasing, and of this we are sure, it deserves the most extended patronage, and from the pleasure and profit we derive from the perusal of its varied and well-written articles, we most earnestly and cordially recommend it to our readers. It may be beyond the means of some, but we think all public libraries, mechanics' institutes, &c. should have a copy; and as a present, a "friendship's offering," we know of no book on floricultural matters so suitable, or more likely to prove acceptable, for *all ladies now are florists*, and information on their favourite pursuit is always appreciated.

THE CEDRUS DEODARA, OR HIMALAYA CEDAR; ITS NATURAL HABITS AND QUALITY OF ITS WOOD, WITH A FEW REMARKS AS TO THE ESTIMATION IN WHICH IT IS HELD IN ITS NATIVE COUNTRY.

THIS is a pamphlet issued by Messrs. W. Maule & Sons, nurserymen, Stapleton-road Nurseries, Bristol, and, as its title implies, conveys interesting information on the noble cedar which is so great a favourite of ours. The contents are principally an extract from the *Journal of the Agricultural and Horticultu-*

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ral Society of India, being part of an article entitled "Brief Observations on some of the Pines and other Coniferous Trees of the Northern Himalaya," by Captain E. Madden, of the Bengal Artillery. This gentleman describes the localities in which this "giant of the forest" luxuriates, and we hope the price will soon be such as to cause extensive plantations to be made on the hilly slopes of the United Kingdom. Our space will not allow us to make long extracts, but all who are interested in ornamental planting we would advise to apply to Messrs. Maule, for a copy of the pamphlet. Some idea may be formed of the immense size of these trees, when it is stated that on the northern face of the Himalaya, one was measured which was thirty-six feet in girth, and others were found to be thirteen and fifteen feet in diameter, and from one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet high. Independent of the imperishable nature of the wood, which is highly odoriferous, it is certainly one of the handsomest trees in existence.

The Gardener's Almanack for 1850. By G. W. Johnson.

We wish we could speak as approvingly of this work as heretofore; but we are sorry to remark a sort of jealous feeling pervading its pages.

There is rather an unwarrantable attack on the *Florist,* conducted by our friend, Mr. Beck. For our own part, we see no sign of lassitude, or want of vigour, in that excellent work; neither do we at all apprehend its speedy dissolution; for of this we are sure, Mr. Beck would not say its sale was increasing, were it not so, and no periodical deserves better of the floricultural public than the *Florist.* We are constrained by a sense of duty to make these observations, and at the same time must express our sorrow that the editor of the Almanack should have permitted such a notice in his work.

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RENDLE & CO.'S DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE.

WE are glad to find that nursery and seedsmen are more generally adopting the plan of issuing descriptive catalogues of the articles in which they deal. Those of Messrs. Rivers, Lane, and Wood (of Maresfield), are well known, and are highly interesting and instructive. We have just received "The General Catalogue of Garden, Agricultural, and Flower Seeds, sold by W. E. Rendle & Co. Plymouth," which, from its excellence, well merits something more than a passing notice; and happy shall we be, from time to time (with Messrs. Rendle's permission), to extract of its valuable information, for the benefit of our readers. The collection of vegetable seeds is most extensive, and to give an idea of the utility of this catalogue, we make the following extract:—

PEAS.

(Time of sowing from the end of October to the end of June.)

SECTION 1.—EARLIEST SORTS.

Rendle's First Early Green.—The earliest of all, good bearer, and fine flavour. Height 3 feet. This sort has given great satisfaction.

Prince Albert.—Very early and prolific. 3 feet.

Fairbeard's Surprise.—Very early. 3 feet.

Fairbeard's Champion of England.—Very excellent fine-flavoured variety, first-rate quality. 3 feet.

Burbridge's Eclipse.—Great bearer, and first quality in every respect; very early. 2 feet.

Auvergne.—An excellent early sort, from France. 3 feet.

Isherwood's Railway.—New, early, can be highly recommended. 5 feet.

SECTION 2.—LATER SORTS.

Queen of Dwarfs.—One of the most abundant-bearing dwarf peas, fine flavoured. 1 foot.

Bedman's Blue Imperial.—Can be highly recommended, good bearer, and fine flavoured. 2 feet.

Groom's Superb Dwarf Blue.—A very excellent sort, prolific, and first quality. 18 inches.

Royal Green Marrow.—An excellent late variety, good for the latest crop. 5 to 6 feet.

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Queen of England.—Large, long-podded, great bearer, and first quality. 5 to 6 feet.

Matchless Marrow.—A very good sort for late crop, great bearer, and fine flavour. 5 to 6 feet.

Flack's Victory.—Great bearer and fine quality. 3 feet.

King of the Marrows.—A new and very superior variety. 4 to 6 feet.

These again are succeeded by the third section (Wrinkled Marrows), but space will not allow us to notice them. We may, however, add, that the seeds throughout are described in a similar manner. The flower seed list is peculiarly comprehensive, and gives to each variety its scientific name, hardihood, time of duration, colour, height, and time of flowering. Our readers will thus see that from its immense utility, we can scarcely say too much in its recommendation; and we are sure that the name of the eminent firm will be a sufficient guarantee that every article they send out will be not only true to name, but also of the best possible quality.

Part III.

OBITUARY.

We have to record in our pages the lamented decease of Mr. Thomas Galloway, of Leicester, who died on the 9th of December, after intense suffering. He was an enthusiastic cultivator of tulips, of which he possessed a fine collection.

Mr. John Staton, of Ruddington, expired suddenly, on Sunday, the 16th of December, of disease of the heart.

QUERIES.

There is a sort of celery called Matchless. Will you give me your opinion of it, as to whether it is very large, &c. as I want it for exhibition? I. P.

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Is a frame or a greenhouse the better place for verbenas? I have had a controversy on this subject with a gentleman, who maintains that a greenhouse is best to keep them in, while I contend for a cool frame, if covered every night, as they will not do with fire-heat. Your opinion on this subject, will be very acceptable. T. R.

Please inform me, in the next number of the *Midland Florist*, where I can obtain the following gooseberries, and at what cost:—*Red*—London, Companion, Wonderful, Slaughterman, Magnet, Lumper. *Yellow*—Leader, Catherina, Pilot, Broom Girl, Goldfinder, Gunner. *Green*—Thumper, Turnout, Overall, Weathercock, Queen Victoria, Green Snake. *White*—Freedom, Queen of Trumps, Tallyho, Eagle, Lady Leicester, Snowball.
A Subscriber from the First.

[We can supply the majority, at six shillings per dozen.]

Will you give me the names of a few climbing plants, with the colour of the flowers, to cover an old wall? I should like some to be evergreen, say four of each kind. Some evergreens, I know, have inconspicuous flowers, and the deciduous plants have the advantage in this respect, being much more showy; but as I am a novice in gardening, your advice will be particularly acceptable. I. W.

[Deciduous Climbing Plants.—*Glycine Sinensis* grows most rapidly after it has been planted a few years. Its flowers are a beautiful blue, blooming in this part of the country the latter end of May, whilst the foliage is young, and occasionally throwing a second bloom in the autumn.

Clematis Moutana—Of strong and rapid growth, flowers white, like the single wood anemone, about the latter end of May.

Aristolochia Sipho.—This makes a splendid pillar plant; the flowers, which are of a greenish colour, are produced in May.

Clematis Flamula.—This shows its flowers very late in the season; they are white, and scented like the hawthorn.

In evergreen climbers we have not so much choice. *Cratægus crenulata* and *Cratægus pyracantha* are well adapted for covering walls, both producing white flowers in the summer and a profusion of scarlet berries in winter. The *Cotoneasters microphylla, marginata*, and *rotundifolia*, are all very neat evergreens, more compact in growth than the pyracanthas, but well adapted for low walls. Then there are the ivies, *Hedera Roegeriana, palmata, variegata*, and *taurica*, besides the *Irish* and *Yellow-berried*. In fact, a selection of ivies would, if well disposed, make one of the quickest and best coverings for this purpose imaginable.]

I am anxious, in order to settle an argument as to some of the best picotees in cultivation, to have your opinion; will you

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kindly tell me the names of the best six, old or new, you have seen this season? A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

[The best we have seen are, Turner's Duchess of Sutherland (L.E.R.), Youell's Gem (L.E.R.), Dodwell's Alfred (heavy purple), Dodwell's Mrs. Turner (heavy purple), Marris's Prince of Wales (heavy purple), Hollyoake's Duke of Northumberland (heavy purple). Our correspondent asks for six, but if he will look at our record, he will find others with first-rate properties. The above are splendid flowers, and may be depended on as first-rate.]

A list of six Bourbon, six Perpetual, and six Chinese roses, for a small garden, is much needed by myself and several friends. Where can we get them best? A reply in next number will oblige yours truly, W. MASON.

[SIX BOURBON ROSES.—*George Cuvier.*—Finely formed, deep pink.

Souvenir de la Malmaison.—A splendid cream-coloured flower, large, and very double.

Souchet.—Crimson purple, very rich and fine.

Comte de Rambuteau.—Light crimson.

Madame Nerard.—Excellent petals, delicate pink.

Paul Joseph.—Rich dark crimson.

SIX PERPETUALS.—*William Jesse.*—Crimson, very handsome and large.

Madame Laffay.—A splendid old crimson flower, still one of the best.

Duchess of Sutherland.—Light rose, of very beautiful form.

Comtesse du Chatel.—Excellent shape, bright pink.

Robin Hood.—A splendid rosy pink.

La Reine.—Immensely large, fine pink.

SIX CHINESE.—*Cramoisie Superieur.*—A most brilliant crim son rose.

Madame Breon.—Deep pink, excellent.

Eugene Beauharnais.—A peculiar shade of light purple, fine.

TEA-SCENTED CHINESE.—*Josephine Malton.*—Most beautifully formed, French white.

Vicomtesse de Cazes.—A very beautiful yellow.

Marie de Medicis.—Fine shaded rose.

Our correspondent will find these some of the best in cultivation. We have selected them for their good qualities, rather than their novelty. As to where they are to be obtained, any respectable nurseryman in his own neighbourhood, will, no doubt, supply them; if not, if he will "drop us a line," we will either do so or recommend those who can.]

I am sorry to be so troublesome, but I am about to begin growing florists' flowers, and I think I could purchase with

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some degree of confidence, if you will let me have a list of what you would buy yourself, were you in my place. Please to say what you would begin with in each sort—tulips, polyanthuses, auriculas, ranunculuses, carnations, picotees, pinks, and pansies. I am sure you would confer a great benefit on myself, as well as other working men. I have made many sad bargains, have frequently found myself cheated, have lost my money and my temper, and have often thought of giving up, in disgust, but have as often determined to start again. I shall esteem it a peculiar favour, if you will attend to my request, and remain yours obediently, A MECHANIC.

[We will endeavour to do what our correspondent wishes. We too have suffered equally with himself, and as we look back on years gone by, we think we could relate many little matters on the subject that our correspondent inquires about, which would be interesting to our brother florists.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In reply to I. D., as to the best yellow gooseberry, Catherina is always at or near the first place, for weight; Pilot is good, and a favourite; Lord Rancliffe excellent, and will prove one of the best; Leader and Railway may be added to the collection with advantage.

BEST CELERY.—Seymour's Superb and Jones's Red are two first rate sorts.

GEORGIUS.—The Banksia roses ought not to be pruned, or at least very little. They flower freely in warm situations, but they are not fond of the knife. Lime-water will destroy worms on a grass plat.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JANUARY.

SHOULD the weather prove propitious, planting all sorts of *fruit trees* and *shrubs* should be proceeded with; on the contrary, if severe weather set in, pruning *large trees* should be attended to, all cross boughs removed, and sufficient cut out to admit more sun and air into the interior of the trees.

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Large *gooseberry trees* are often seen in small gardens, which, from the system pursued, of shortening the shoots of the last summer's growth, year after year, are one mass of thorns and branches. Now this ought not to be, and we would advise those persons who have trees of this description to examine them carefully, and from the lower part of the stem, remove those branches wholly which fill up the centre of the tree. We are quite certain that not only larger and better fruit may thus be obtained, but also a greater weight from a given space, to say nothing of the comfort in gathering the fruit, and keeping the trees free from insects.

On fine sunny days (we may have such in January), *wall trees* should be nailed and pruned. *Raspberry canes* should be attended to, those which bore fruit last year cut out close to the ground, and the others thinned. We like the plan best of training them in arches, bringing together the shoots of two neighbouring plants, and tying them at the tips. By this means no stakes are required, a point of some importance to small gardeners, and the centre of the plant is left open for the young shoots to throw themselves up, and thus get well ripened. *New raspberries* are now beginning to be numerous. We grow of yellow sorts, the Antwerp and Magnum Bonum; whilst of red we possess Cornwall's Victoria, Red Antwerp, Monarch, Victoria, Fastolff, Northumbrian Fillbasket, and Walker's Seedling. This last is of excellent flavour.

Standard fruit trees which have been planted this autumn, if acted on by the wind, should be staked, as it is extremely prejudicial to their well-doing to be blown about as they are emitting fibres in the spring. In old orchards, where the trees are covered with moss and rough bark (a receptacle for filth and insects), it will be advisable to have them well scraped as well as pruned, and then to give them a dressing of soft soap and water, laying it on with a whitewash brush. Last winter, we had an old Ribstone Pippin, full of knots and crooked branches, covered with moss, the shoots seldom doing any good, but generally dying off at the extremities, and the fruit few, small, and cracked. It was well pruned, scraped, and dressed, and during the past autumn, it had a good crop of fruit, fine and well coloured, and also made abundance of strong young wood, giving abundant promise of increased vigour.

Digging all spare ground is absolutely necessary, but we by no means recommend throwing it flat at this season; the best plan is to throw it up in ridges, to fully expose it to the action of the frost, that when the amateur wishes to plant, he may seize the opportunity, and will find his land dry and friable, while that of his neighbour, who has adopted the other *idle* plan, it will be absolutely impossible to work.

As for sowing now, much cannot be said, it will, of course, depend on the weather, but *early peas* may be got in. Look at

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our review of Messrs Rendle's Catalogue, in the present number; a wonderful improvement has taken place in these, within the last few years. A few *radishes* may be tried on a warm border, covering them with litter, whilst a pinch of *hardy lettuce* may be sown for a chance.

Rhubarb roots may be put into any warm dark place, to force and blanch the leaves; and should any of our readers possess old roots of the common sort, which they are going to replace with Victoria or Linnæus, we would not advise them to destroy the former, but to place them in soil, in a cellar, where they will produce a profitable crop, which will certainly be a luxury.

In the greenhouse, give air at all favourable opportunities, and when watering is done, let it be done effectually, and in the morning. The temperature of the house ought not to be lower than forty-one or forty-two degrees. When there is convenience, and the party wishes it, a higher temperature may be kept up, and by this means, many pretty hardy shrubs brought prematurely into flower. There are the *rhododendrons, kalmias, azaleas, hybrid perpetual* and *Chinese roses;* then the *Deutzia scabra* makes one of the prettiest plants imaginable, with its snowdroplike flowers; *hayacinths, jonquils, violets,* &c.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

Polyanthuses.—Ours have been, more or less, in full flower for the last two months; but it is a bad plan, when intended for exhibition, to allow the plants to flower at this season. A covering of good decayed vegetable matter will be serviceable to these plants; it will keep the crown of the roots secure from frost, for at this season they are apt to be exposed. If n frames, attention must be paid to the ravages of mice. Whether for mischief or not, we do not know, but they will often eat the young hearts out of the plants.

Auriculas may have a slight degree more water, as they will now speedily begin to move. Air at all times practicable, protecting from cutting winds and heavy rain.

Pansies and *pinks* will require but very little attention. Some trifling shelter would be advisable for the former; wire netting round the beds would, we fancy, be a good thing.

Carnations and *picotees* must be carefully watched for the appearance of mildew on the foliage. When detected, not only remove the diseased foliage, but likewise the affected plant.

Prepare and turn over compost heaps, collect leaves, willow dust, &c.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

COPPICEANA.

No. I.

At the earnest request of many friends, who are anxious to have a descriptive list of plants grown at the Coppice, with hints on their cultivation, as well as their probable price, we have determined to commence a series of articles of this description. They will include florists' flowers, trees, and shrubs, with our observations, &c. thereon.

We are anxious that our work should be so divided as to suit, if possible, all tastes; and though we must confess "the soft impeachment" (our *love*—of flowers), still we recollect that others are fond of trees, and some, or all, of fruits and vegetables, and their inclinations and feelings we shall be very glad to consult.

We must here state that the Coppice lies east of the town of Nottingham, the principal part of our land sloping to the south and east. It is a strong reddish loam, deep, with a kind of cold stony substratum, known in the locality by the name of *skerry*. Rhododendrons grow remarkably well on this land. As an illustration, we may observe, that we have now layers of R. campanulatum, a variety extremely difficult to root, which have emitted abundance of fibres. The nurseries are comparatively in their infancy, having only been established seven years; but during that period we have lost no opportunity of adding to our stock, either from the Continent or the best English nurseries, all the most hardy ornamental trees, shrubs, and perennial flowers, as well as fruits

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and our descriptive lists will show that we are as rich in *good things* as many provincial nurseries of three times the standing. Our readers who possess similar soil, aspect, &c. will be enabled to ascertain what will be most proper for them; and we hope to make these articles a safe and interesting guide to amateurs and purchasers of every description. We do not mean to confine ourselves to a mere dry detail, but where we can introduce anecdote we shall do so. We will take our plants alphabetically, and begin with

ACER *(The Maple).*

Acer Striatum (The Snake-barked Maple) is from America, and raised from seeds, it forms in this country a medium-sized tree. It takes its name from the circumstance of white stripes running lengthways on the bark of the young trees. They prefer a rather dry situation. Plants five to six feet high, 1s. each.

Acer Colchidum Rubrum.—This was to have been, as its name implies, a tree with red foliage, and it has been described as such. We gave a high price for our plant, and watched its progressing foliage with much interest. The leaves came green, and continued green all the summer. Well, we thought autumn was the time when this scarlet-leaved plant would delight us; but no, it assumed no red tint. So far we were disappointed, yet we were pleased with the plant; its neat foliage and dense habit will make it a desirable sort. We have not yet propagated it.

A. Macrophyllum. (The Large-leaved Maple.)—This is a noble plant, with splendid foliage, but it will not do here; our specimen plant, about ten feet high, died suddenly, with all its foliage on it. We were half inclined to believe it was struck with lightning, but being in a low part of the nursery, where it was very wet, we suppose the situation did not suit it. Younger plants look by no means well in wet and cold situations. Price, 1s. 6d.

A. Rubrum.—This is usually termed the Scarlet-flowering Maple, the blossoms, which are red, appearing before the leaves. It is very ornamental. We raise it generally from layers, and it forms a very pretty medium-sized tree. Plants four to five feet are worth 9d. to 1s. each.

A. Rubrum Variegatum.—This is a very beautiful variety of the before-mentioned sort, the leaves being more or less striped with yellow. We obtained it from M. Van Houtte, of Ghent, some years ago, and have inarched it on the A. Rubrum. We have only, as yet, seen it in one nurseryman's list, that

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of Mr. Rivers. We do not suppose that it will make a large tree, yet it will accord well with such things as the Gold and Silver-striped Sycamore, Striped Spanish Chestnut, &c. Price, 5s. each.

A. Platanoides Variegata (The Silver-striped Norway Maple) is a tree of pretty habit, neat in foliage, striped and suffused with white. With us it is not a very rapid-growing variety, but should have a place in every collection. It is propagated by grafting on the common Norway maple. Plants, 2s. 6d. each.

A. Laciniatum. (The Eagle's Claw, or Cut-leaved Maple.)—A most singular and interesting small tree. It is sometimes grafted on the Norway maple, and is also raised by layers. The formation of the leaves is such that it requires no stretch of the imagination to recognize the reason why the term "eagle's claw" is applied to it. Every lover of curious plants should grow it. Price, 1s.

A. Moxonii. (Moxon's Maple.)—This we received out of Yorkshire, some few years ago. It partakes more of the character of the sycamore than any of the preceding. It has made no great start with us yet, but it is a decidedly good variety. The foliage is rather coarse and large, streaked and variegated with cream colour, with occasional tinges of red. Some of the leaves are truly *tricolored.*

Platanus Pseudo Variegatus (The Gold-striped Sycamore), though now a well-known tree, deserves a place in every plantation in the kingdom. We have a good specimen on the grass, in front of our house, and in early spring, when its foliage is fresh, it is a most beautiful object. The leaves are large, and the tree robust. It is usually propagated by budding on the common sycamore. Trees, five or six feet in height, may be obtained for 1s.

The Acer Purpurea, or Purple-leaved Sycamore, does not here deserve its name, for we see nothing to sanction its being called purple; we therefore do not recommend it.

Aucuba.

Aucuba Japonica.—This is really a splendid evergreen, and wherever there is ornamental gardening, is sure to be seen occupying a prominent position. Of easy propagation, growing freely from cuttings, or layers, and flourishing in either moist or dry situations. Its flowers are inconspicuous, but this is not of so much importance, when its green and gold foliage is taken into consideration. Its habit is naturally bushy, and either for grouping, or as a detached plant on grass, or in the centre of a bed, it is equally applicable. The price of plants one foot high is 6d.; two or three-feet plants, from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.

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Aucuba Latimaculata.—This is said to be a variety from Belgium, and though ours was a grafted plant from that country, we do not see much difference; many of the leaves are like the old variety, whilst some have a broad band of yellow down the centre. We have lately seen a much better sport from the original sort.

[To be continued.]

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

BY H. S. M.

CRIMSON BIZARRES have always been a scarce class, and though much admired, the want of a pure white ground, to contrast with the rich markings of deep purple, marone, and pink, has been generally felt and admitted. Of late years some grand additions have been made to them. The first and best advance, at least one that at the time outstripped all competitors, was,

Ely's Lord Milton, which, at the present day, is No. 1, when well done. Added to good form, it has splendid colour and correct marking, being also of good habit.

Cartwright's Rainbow is a fine sort, though scarce. It has a peculiar growth, the layers are long and straggling. It often comes rough and uneven in the petal, but may be caught fine, though always second, plant for plant, with the preceding variety.

Holliday's Thomas Hewlett is one of the new varieties, of very excellent properties. It must dispute the palm with Lord Milton, the form being good, with sufficiency of colour, and the white superior. It came out at a monstrous price, yet, comparing it with many for which ten shillings and sixpence has been charged when they first came out, it was worth it.

Soorn's Bloomsbury.—Rather narrow and thin in the petal, white middling, stripes good. I recollect a friend of mine giving near upon twenty pounds worth of tulips to the raiser, for two pairs of this variety, on the presumption that nothing either could or would touch it. As far as my opinion goes, it will stand about third, or at least as a very middling second-rate.

Ely's Major Goldsworthy.—Very finely marked, and the white good. It is however, a late variety, and can seldom be got in bloom with other sorts.

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Greasley's Lord Brougham is a very lively-coloured flower, the marone stripes being dark and the pink bright. Its petals are somewhat narrow. Second-rate, but very attractive. Raised in the neighbourhood of Nottingham.

Ely's William Caxton stands in the same relative position in this class as Gameboy amongst scarlet bizarres. It is quite thin enough, but a nice sort when well grown; the form of petal is good and the colours brilliant. It would be a valuable sort to seed from, or to cross others with, it being generally productive in pollen.

Mansley's Robert Burns is a large and bold flower, rather uncertain, but I have seen it (and it can come) a match for any of the varieties previously named. The petals are well formed, and the colour is brilliant and decided. No collection should be without "the poet."

Slater's Gladiator.—This flower has, I think, been rather unfairly treated; for where is the sort that comes up to the *standard?* It has size, pod, fine marking, and brilliant colour in its favour; the white might be better, but I have no doubt, under a good system of cultivation, it will prove a teazer to many out.

Wakefield's Paul Pry.—A very old favourite and a safe flower; the ribboning is, perhaps, rather narrower than it ought to be, but it is very distinctly and prettily marked.

Hastings Rainbow.—Very high coloured, a brilliant flower, full thin enough for the south, but will be a winner in the north and midland counties. This variety has only lately been let out to the public, though I recollect being much taken with it, when I saw it first, in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, some time ago.

Puxley's Prince Albert.—A large and very full flower. I do not know how it is, but I cannot fancy this sort for an exhibition. It must not be more than second-rate, yet for those who do not exhibit, or where bold flowers are desired for the border, this would be an acquisition. It has good form, and plenty of stuff (petals) in it to allow one-half to be extracted, when those that remain might be dressed (*i.e.* arranged) to make a tolerable specimen.

Hugo Meynell (Ely).—A large but somewhat loose flower. The pink often predominates. Second-rate, though sometimes it may be caught fine.

In this class, as useful and *cheap* flowers, I may name Ely's Duke of Bedford and Duke of Kent, with Taylor's William IV., Wood's William IV., Young's Earl Grey, &c.

There is a division in crimson bizarres, in consequence of some varieties being lighter in their

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colouring. Instead of the dark stripes being marone, they are more inclined to purple, with the lighter stripes delicate pink or rose colour. These, for distinction, are called "pink and purple bizarres." In this class there is

Sarah Payne (Ward).—The white is good, and it may be termed a pretty flower.

Henry Kirke White (Taylor) I saw before it was let out, or sold. It has very smooth and nicely rounded petals; the colour is well distributed, and will be much admired where "pink and purple" is fancied.

Parker's Sophia.—Occasionally large and rough, but really a very handsome and attractive sort; it is very robust, and should be grown.

Sealy's Princess Royal.—A large and rather awkward podded flower, the marking in many instances very narrow.

Mr. Editor, I have done, for this time. If these reminiscences do not prove acceptable to your readers, you must give me a hint to that effect.

TO THE TULIP GROWERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

GENTLEMEN,

I am induced to address you, in consequence of a circular and certain resolutions, adopted at a meeting of florists, at Denton, having been distributed widely, and purporting, as they do, to be proceedings in connection with the Great Northern Tulip Show.

I shall make no comment on their professed sympathy with the young amateurs and cottagers; nor on the scheme which proposes to separate the large from the small growers, or, as they elegantly express it, the giants from the dwarfs; nor yet on those equitable principles which secure prizes to a certain portion of the exhibiters *exclusively;* nor on the cups and class-money which they *expect* to raise; nor on that pharisaical charity towards Manchester, which says one thing and means another; nor on that envy, which, like the jaundiced eye, sees everything through an improper medium; but simply state a few facts, to show to the public what *we* contemplate, and what *they* may reasonably expect.

I scarcely need allude to the resolution, unanimously passed at York, that the management of the next Great Northern

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Show should be entrusted to the Manchester Amateur Tulip Society. I am glad to say that that society consists of precisely the same number of members as when the resolution passed; that they are perfectly agreed in all that has been done in reference to the Great Show; that they are determined to carry it out in every respect equal to the exhibition at York; that the whole of their arrangements are as complete as it is possible to be in this early stage; that the list of prizes, though not particularly announced in the advertisement, will exceed in amount the York schedule; that the arrangement of them is made more favourable to the small grower; that the services of competent judges have been secured; and the day of exhibition left to the choice of the exhibiters.

It is quite true we have agreed upon ten shillings as the subscription for each, except the members of our society, who pay double that amount. Is ten shillings inconsistent with the idea of a great show? or is it for the sake of five shillings that these gentlemen have formed the strange opposition scheme of "two Great Northern Tulip Shows" being held in the same town, at the same time? The *animus* of the circular and the folly of the attempt are upon a par. It is equally true, we can promise no favour to any one, but hope to secure justice to all; and I may add, it never has happened in my experience, that all exhibiters have met equally well prepared. Supposing the subscription to have been five shillings each, what would follow as a consequence? Insignificant prizes. The amount a man may subscribe to an exhibition in no way affects his chance of success; hence the fallacy of Mr. Slater's and his friends' arguments, and the folly of their interference. If the subscription be small, the amount distributed in prizes must be small also, unless great sacrifices be made by some one.

Allusion has been made to the show at Wakefield, at which there were about forty subscribers, at five shillings each, or ten pounds for the whole. The principal part of this sum was given to the first pan, and to defray the incidental expenses of the exhibition, leaving scarcely a shilling each for class competition. Is this held up to the young amateur and cottager as a model meeting? Is it rightly designated a Great Northern Show?

At York, had the exhibition taken place as at first proposed, that is, in 1848, the subscriptions would have been about fifteen pounds. In 1849 they were augmented, by an additional number of subscribers, to twenty-five pounds; and even this sum, I believe, would scarcely pay the *expenses* of the exhibition. Whence then must the prize money have come, had it not been for the union and cordial co-operation of the York florists, and the untiring and admirable exertions of thir secretary, Mr. Hepton. I may here mention that Mr. Hepton recommended to me a higher amount of subscription.

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It is quite true also that Mr. Jennison, the proprietor of the Belle Vue Gardens, has, with his usual liberality to the florists of Manchester and the surrounding districts, promised to the funds of the exhibition the sum of *twenty pounds*, the use and enjoyment of his splendid panoramic gardens, tents, and unequalled accommodation, a band of music, and other things of considerable importance, equal to *fifteen pounds* more; and for this liberality, the only return he requires is that the flowers shall remain in his possession, as a further attraction to the numerous visiters who resort to these attractive gardens.

It is urged as an objection to our arrangements that the flowers are to remain staged. We, on the contrary, hope that this plan will be followed as a general rule, in all open meetings, to prevent that system of purloining flowers, at the close of an exhibition, so frequently practised by parties, for dishonest purposes, much to the prejudice of floriculture.

It has also been stated that the opposition has its origin in our having deviated from the principles acted on at Wakefield, York, &c. though it must be apparent to every sensible man that that is not the true cause. The same breath which censures us and professes an adherence to the rules and regulations at York, requests the nurserymen to aid them with money to convert the tulip show into an horticultural display of plants, &c. also. Admirable consistency!

There is one thing more I will allude to, and that is the expenses inseparable from a public exhibition. These, I have stated, are guaranteed to us at Belle Vue, with the handsome donation and the whole of our subscriptions for prizes; forming a more imposing schedule than has ever appeared for one class of flowers in this or any other part of the kingdom.

And lastly, it must be stated, that the meeting at which this opposition scheme was concocted was held at Denton, a hamlet near Ashton; that the parties who constitute the committee reside at distances from Manchester varying from five to twenty miles; that the only two names in the committee connected with Manchester were never consulted on the matter, one of them being our treasurer, and neither of them particularly interested in any movement amongst the tulip growers of the country.

Having now given you a simple statement of facts, I will leave it entirely in your hands to say whether the opposition is a justifiable one, or whether anything has been done by our society to forfeit a single particle of your entire confidence.

I remain yours faithfully,

R. DIXON,

HONORARY SECRETARY TO THE MANCHESTER AMATEUR TULIP SOCIETY.

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WHAT MEANS ARE THE BEST CALCULATED TO ADVANCE THE INTEGRITY OF FLORICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS?

BY J. SLATER, FLORIST, CHEETHAM-HILL, NEAR MANCHESTER.

GREAT complaints have ever been made as to the want of integrity in exhibiters, but no one has ventured to suggest more than compelling them to swear to the flowers being their own property and growth. This would not meet the case, for a man who will act dishonestly, will not scruple to swear to it. Something more is necessary. Any regulation comes with an ill grace from parties calling themselves gentlemen, unless they are free from such practices. The cottager is not the only offender, but he is generally the party on whom all the odium rests. Equal justice ought to be done to all—the poor as well as the rich. Neither ought the cottager to be subjected to insult, when innocent, because of his poverty, but rather encouraged in the right path. If any allowance is to be made, let it be to the poor man, because his feelings of honour may possibly not be so acute as the educated gentleman, who is aware of the etiquette of society; but I say, *let not any allowance be made for either*, for *he who would take the smallest prize illegally, would not hesitate to steal, when occasion offers.*

Many will say, how can this be done? Not by simply expelling the offender from one society and allowing him free range of all others, which would be no punishment at all; but let each exhibiter sign a declaration that the flowers he exhibits are his own property and growth; and that if, at any future time, it is proved to the satisfaction of the committee, that they are not, he will refund the money or prize to them, upon application, without litigation. And moreover, let a further declaration be signed by each individual exhibiter, pledging himself to prevent, as far as in his power, any person who may be convicted of making a false declaration, from showing at any

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meeting of which he is a member, and that if the committee allow it, he will not continue to be a member. Further, let every society in the kingdom make a rule, to the effect, that upon any member objecting to a person guilty of such conduct elsewhere, and producing a paper, signed by the secretary or president of the society where the offence was committed, stating that he was found guilty by them, such person shall be disqualified for ever.

If these rules were carried into effect, no man scarcely would dare to do anything that would endanger his reputation and character, and make him an outcast from his favourite pursuit.

As an illustration of this, I will briefly state the case of a florist in this neighbourhood, who, some years ago, was convicted of robbing a brother florist's garden, and punished by the magistrates. The florists immediately expelled him from their show, and no one would have any dealings with him, or associate with him; and if any person attempted to buy for him, he was punished in like manner. The man has often wept at his position. If he sit among a number of florists, no one speaks to him, or takes the slightest notice of him, and this has been strictly carried out for years. A person went out to buy some plants for him, and he had to make a solemn promise that he would not so offend again, or he would have been expelled in like manner. This is the way all should be punished who are guilty of exhibiting contrary to the rules they pledge themselves to uphold; and were it to be put strictly into effect, would deter those who are dishonestly inclined, as it would, in a manner, seal their death warrant.

I would, in conclusion, suggest that all *past offences be forgiven*, and a new beginning made, which would give every one a chance of regaining his lost character and being honest for the future; and I do not doubt but the character of florists would be raised in the estimation of the public.

[We received the above in manuscript, from Mr. Slater.—Ed.]

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NOTES ON A FEW TULIPS SEEN DURING THE SUMMER OF 1849.

BY THE EDITOR.

We have previously, in our last year's volume, alluded to the great show held at York, and we now look through our memorandums, to see what other flowers we observed which struck our fancy. We do not for one moment suppose our ideas will always be right, but we think it very likely that some of our readers may be glad of the information. In roses,

Gibbons's Catherine, which we saw on several beds, still holds its place in our estimation. It is full enough of colour, but then it is so rich, and the base like ivory. It is also a bold flower, rising well to the third or fourth row.

Haywood's Magnificent, with us, was nothing like what the flower is represented to be in *Beck's Florist*. Ours, on opening, was "as yellow as a primrose;" and as for character, there was none, except a bad one; we therefore conclude that it is an inferior break. We also saw it in similar style at Hinckley.

Lawrence's Duchess of Clarence is a flower that we think likely to suit northern growers. It is pure, of good colour, and beautifully marked, and though not without fault, yet we would advise our friends to inquire about it.

Arlette, with us, was flamed this season, and in that style very pretty. It certainly does not get on as it ought to do, evidencing a rather delicate constitution.

Belvoir Rose.—Originally from the gardens of Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire. Marks in the style of unique, but the base is pure. There are several spurious sorts in circulation. We do not consider the form good, yet it is equal to many in the same class.

Now we are on the subject of rose tulips, we may just say, that the Rev. S. Creswell and ourselves have made a friendly match, to exhibit three feathered roses against each other, on the plan suggested some short time ago, by J. Davidson, Esq. of Camden Grove. We have now selected four varieties each, and named the row, and the number in the row, in which each bulb stands, and have agreed to exhibit three flowers each, selected from those marked. The varieties named by the Rev. S. Creswell are, Arlette (Dixon), Monument (Dixon), Napoleon (Dixon), and

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Rebecca. The two last flowers we have not yet seen. The varieties we have chosen to compete with them are, Heroine, Monument (Dixon), La Belle Nannette, and Lady Middleton. From this, it will naturally be supposed, that the flowers we have selected are the best of the class grown in this neighbourhood; and in fact we think they are so, as far as steadiness goes. Our plan is to visit each others beds, and if there is not "eyesight in it," to call in a third party, or three friends, to decide who wins. But to resume: though we have not seen the *break*, we understand from undoubted authority, that

Kate Connor (Slater), a very good rose breeder, has become rectified in fine feathered style this season. The cup of this flower is much better than many others in the class, and the purity and beauty of the marking is unrivalled.

In byblœmens, we bloomed a Scotch flower, called

Reid's Prince Albert. It was from a very small bulb and was pretty, the feathering delicate and the cup pure, but we fear it will prove too long.

Sapphire.—A very fine flamed byblœmen, getting up to the third and, from a strong bulb, to the fourth row. Two bulbs on'y have flowered in this neighbourhood, but in both instances they were first-rate.

Violet Alexander (Barr's strain).—A splendid feathered byblœmen, and, when right, a match for most out. It is widely different from the flower known here as Violet Alexander, which is a flame, and similar to the sort grown as Amyntus and La Bien Amie.

We have stated our opinion of "Wonder," in a late number, which has elicited the following remarks from Captain Brown, with which we must close our present observations. In his letter, dated the 20th of December, he says, "Allow me to thank you for the notice of my tulip, called by my Jersey friends 'The Wonder,'—and as a beautiful and perfect flower, deserving its name. You have compared it to Fanny Kemble, and really I ought to feel flattered; for that flower, with two offsets only, was purchased by the late Mr. Davy, of Chelsea, at the high price of £100. He never lived to see the bloom, and at his death, it was sold by auction, to Mr. Goldham, for £72 10s.; and yet I have the hardihood to say, that

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Wonder is a better flower, superior in all its properties. The cup and marking of Wonder is more like Thalia, though of a different colour. Its form is very good, and the white dazzling and pure, with feather and star of the deepest puce, the nearest approach to black I ever saw in a tulip. Added to this, it is constant, a great blessing to florists, who covet a fine bloom every season. It was broken from a seedling of the late Mr. Clark's, but such as scarcely had existence, and certainly had not flowered, at the time when Fanny was sold to Mr. Davy. It has never been offered for sale, but is in the hands of a few friends, to whom I have given it. Yourself, Mr. Lightbody, Mr. Dobree, Mr. Dixon of Manchester, and Mr. Hardy of Warrington, are the only possessors of this flower that I am acquainted with; except, indeed, some garden thieves, who plundered my bed last year. The stock remaining is very limited, seven or eight roots, including offsets, and a few breeders, are all I possess. Had it been in the hands of a London florist, like Mr. Groom, it would have been a mine of wealth—a very Golconda or California—but as it is, I leave it to my northern friends to *view* and *value* it agreeably to their judgment. It *stands alone*, upon *its own merits*, of which the great Manchester show, next year, will be a fair test, as it will probably have to contend there with the choicest and best of all England."

PINKS, PICOTEES, AND CARNATIONS.

BY MR. JOHN EDWARDS.

With your permission, I am about to offer a few remarks on the northern and southern raisers and cultivators of pinks, picotees, and carnations, with a view to the settlement of certain existing differences. For years, I might say ever since their cultivation by florists, there has been a continual diversity of opinion

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respecting the standard of excellence for these popular flowers; claims are set up and discussions constantly agitated as to the respective merits and demerits of those productions which owe their existence to particular localities; indeed the wars of the white and red roses, amongst our ancestors, though more sanguinary in their results, were scarcely conducted with more pertinacity than the opposition between the northern and southern cultivators of those divisions of the Dianthus family known as pinks, picotees, and carnations.

The first step, it appears to me, towards an amicable solution of the difficulty, is to point out in what the difference really consists; in the first place, the northerns are challenged by the southerns for an extreme *thinness*, as being but just one remove from their primitive "*single* blessedness." On the other hand, the southerns are blamed for raising, fostering, and distributing quite the reverse, or *full* flowers, somewhat vulgarly denominated "mops."

Are these differences never to be adjusted? for in this one ingredient, viz. *the number of petals* constituting a perfect flower, lies the supposed barrier. That all growers agree as to colours, their brilliancy, and distribution, shape of individual petals, the desirableness of smooth edges and thickness of texture, their imbricating arrangement for the better display of such colours and marking, size of specimen, and distinctness of variety, no one has ever yet denied; therefore the difficulty is very far from insurmountable, if we calmly discuss the subject. Let all be friends in the good cause, and vigorously set about the amalgamation of opinions, and so clear up existing doubts. The many floral organs now at our disposal offer a happy medium for intercommunication and it must go hard indeed if, ere long, northerns and southerns be not so united that our metropolitan exhibition of "the Happy Family" shall no longer "stand alone in its glory." In offering my views on the subject, I anticipate and desire some rejoinder—

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I merely seek to open the question, so that, by and by, our editors, conductors, superintendents, and all "of that ilk," will have a goodly crop of seed, which, when harvested, and in due time "thrashed out," may, I hope, yield them a fair return for our occupying so much of their ground—or pages.

What have we first to consider? The northerns and southerns are said to differ. This gives rise to other questions, viz. who are the northerns and who are the southerns? are there no others interested in these differences? no down easterns and far westerns? are they of no consideration. It may all be very fine, Messrs. Ely, Dodwell, Slater, Wood, Cheetham, Hepworth, Lightbody, Gatliffe, and our other friends far north, for "York is wanted;" but Messrs, Puxley, May, Pond, Willmer, Headley, Twitchett, Barnard, Edmonds, Young, Creed, Keynes, Hale, Smith, Ward, Norman, Matthews, Kirtland, Trahar, Turner, Burroughes, Wilson, Garratt, "do not lodge there," for until the "boundary question" be first settled, all must be "confusion worse confounded."

Our midland friends (thanks to J. F. Wood, for perpetuating the distinction by his powerful yet merciful organ, the *Midland Florist)*, Messrs. Fletcher, Marris, Hollyoak, Barringer, Holliday, and others, representing Birmingham, Warwick, Coventry, Bedford, Northampton, Leicester, and neighbouring districts, are purposely passed over, or only very slightly touched upon, for obvious reasons; they at present are almost without a "local habitation and a name," a sort of *hybrid*, or Jack-on-both-sides, and must so remain, unless we give them a *settlement;* their claims are strong, however, and amongst them are men who "will be heard." The important point next arising is, where is our line of demarcation to be drawn? We need no trigonometrical survey—no high and mighty referee, like the King of the Netherlands on the American boundary. This is the plan that I propose:—Take a map of England (to be found in every monthly issue of *Bradshaw*, and

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sufficiently accurate for the purpose), place your ruler on Lynn and Swansea, and mark the line across the entire land, from Norfolk to Glamorganshire; this I take to be a fair apportionment of interested localities and counties, and quite near enough to settle the matter. May my "land scheme" prove less harrassing than others of higher pretentions. Here we have a guide to know who is who. Those who feel themselves aggrieved should forthwith appeal, and the commissioners I propose are, Messrs. Wood, Beck, Neville, Harrison, Glenny, &c., who will, no doubt, hear evidence and make their award, and a just one, too,—alike satisfactory to all. This settled, let us devise means to turn such decision to some account; to this end, an universal canvass must be made for certain returns, I therefore, with much pleasure, move—

"That every cultivator furnish me with lists of the best twelve pinks, ditto twelve picotees, ditto twelve carnations, giving in full the names of their chosen representative, under whose ownership they are known, and in what county raised."

These will give us a stepping-stone for lasting reference; nor is that all, for such returns must be tested—*that is the rub; means must be found.* Men of weight and character must be chosen, the tilting grounds decided on, and in 1850 such a floral tournament proclaimed throughout the land, with "quality, not quantity," for its gathering cry, as shall make the welkin ring.

I have a printed form in preparation for general distribution to all post-paid applicants who may enclose a stamped and directed envelope; and I earnestly solicit the co-operation of *every* florist in *every* village, county, or shire, by applying for the same, with which full instructions will be given and prompt attention urged. The result of all this must, in the end, fully tend to confirm all herein stated; and, above all, bring about and increase that friendly spirit and rivalry, the want of which has alone kept

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up the seeming differences, amounting to almost animosity, which, with kindly aid, it is my object to remove and entirely dispel.

If the subject seem rather lengthily handled, there is yet matter of so much vital importance still untouched, that, at a future opportunity, I may again issue from my hiding place, and, like a giant refreshed, "wage war" for the future and lasting welfare of the much neglected and too often abused recreative science of floriculture.

Wace Cottage, Holloway, Middlesex, Jan. 1850.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

In the *Gardener's Chronicle* there is a list of pears, extracted from *Bulletin de la Societé d'Horticulture Pratique du Rhone.* The following appear to us to be very desirable:—

Catinka (Esperin).—A rather large variety. As the fruit ripens, its colour is greenish yellow, with small brown dots, and red next the sun. Its flavour is that of the Crassane, and is very excellent. The tree is vigorous and productive.

Beurré St Nicholas.—The fruit is large, colour a bright golden yellow, red next the sun. The flesh is pale yellow, very agreeably perfumed, with abundance of rich sugary juice. Its period of ripening is September.

The Brougham Hall Melon is a very superior-flavoured green-fleshed variety. It is said to surpass all other sorts in the same ratio as the Greengage is superior to other plums.

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THE RADFORD BEAUTY APPLE.—This is a seedling, originated in the neighbourhood of Nottingham. The tree has borne fruit three seasons. It is of large size, brilliant scarlet on the side next the sun, and mottled with red on the other. For culinary purposes it is excellent, and at the same time is of superior flavour as a table fruit. As an attractive market apple it will be found a great addition, and the tree is of robust erect habit, and a great bearer.

FLOWERS.

NEW HYBRIDIZED OR CROSS-BRED LILIES,

RAISED BY MR. GROOM.

WE have several times brought the Japan lilies before our readers, and as they are so hardy, and so easy of cultivation and propagation, that if the scaly root were pulled to pieces and planted, each scale would, under favourable circumstances, put forth a bulb, we hope that all will try them. The following sorts are the results of some of Mr. G.'s labours. They were raised from Lilium bulbiferum, crossed with Lilium atrosanguineum, showing the union.

Nabob.—Twenty-two inches high, bright orange, with very dark blood-coloured blotches, fine, twelve to sixteen flowers on the stem.

Louis Philippe.—Twenty-six inches high, very bright deep red, with a few blotches and black spots, produces from sixteen to twenty, very fine.

Titian.—Fifteen inches, red orange, with a few dark spots, free bloomer, produces from sixteen to twenty flowers, very good.

Duke of Wellington.—Sixteen inches, bright rich red, with a few dark red blotches, fine and rich, ten to fourteen blossoms.

Vulcan.—Twenty two inches, very dark red, and very much blotched with deep blood colour, produces from thirteen to sixteen flowers.

Voltaire.—Dwarf habit, thirteen inches, light orange, with reddish brown blotches, from twelve to sixteen blooms.

Rubens.—Seventeen inches high, rich dark red, with a few blotches and some black spots, a very showy sort.

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If thus much from a red and orange intermixed, what may be expected from flowers exhibiting more contrast. Many of our readers grow the old Tiger Lily, which, though common, is a splendid sort; if it were fertilized with L. longiflora, with its long tubular pure white blossoms, beautiful things might be expected. These are cheap, and within the reach of everyone. Then, if the Longiflora were crossed with the scarlet Martagnon, what a diversified progeny might be looked for.

DAHLIAS.

YELLOW.

Mrs. Seldon (Turner) was awarded a first-class certificate, at Birmingham, and pronounced extra fine. The colour is very bright and form good.

George Glenny (Barnes).—Of good size and fine petal; the arrangement and form excellent.

Golden Drop (Oliver).—Our friend, Mr. Harrison, of Felton, wrote to us relative to this fine variety. It has been very successfully exhibited in the north of England. Of large size and excellent form, the colour also being bright and beautiful.

CRIMSON.

Sir F. Bathurst (Keyne).—This took a certificate at Birmingham, and is a splendid flower, excellent in form, and will prove a match for most sorts in cultivation.

Thames Bank Hero (Robinson).—This, though not very novel in colour, is a compact and beautifully-arranged flower, and will be found very useful.

TIPPED AND EDGED.

Queen of the Isles (Skynner).—A most beautiful sort. White, with crimson tips.

Lady Cullum (Barnes).—Yellow, with the tips of the petals blotched with white. Though there are many in this style, still this is one of the best.

HARDY TREES, SHRUBS, ETC.

King of the Ayrshires Rose (Willison).—As a really splendid climber, and a fit companion for Amadis (Boursault), we can recommend the above, for covering trellises, making a beautiful pillar, or to

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bud on tall stocks, as a weeping rose. The colour deep crimson, and more double than Amadis.

QUEEN VICTORIA, also raised by Mr. Willison, is another fine climbing rose, and would contrast beautifully with the above. It blooms in large clusters, and the colour is rosy lilac. These two roses would be exceedingly well adapted for covering a wire arch, one planted on each side; their branches would meet at the top, and mingle beautifully.

Of miniature roses Mr. W. has raised several. His GENERAL TOM THUMB being one of the most delicate fairylike roses imaginable. We have been favoured with the following description:—"This is one of the smallest morsels of a rose ever produced; a plant only measuring two inches every way, embraced in this small compass eight full blown flowers, buds, leaves, stem, and trunk. No plant can be more desirable for edgings than this Lilliputian. When planted in not too damp a situation, few roses thrive so freely as this."

EUONYMUS LATIFOLIA ELEGANS.—This is a beautiful evergreen, not yet in the trade, being still in the hands of the raiser, Mr. Willison, of Whitby. The leaves are much broader than the Silver-striped, and of great substance.

VEGETABLES.

WE have been asked several times lately for the names of new cucumbers. The old favourites we have before given.

Read's Superb.—A really fine sort, of good form, reaching from twenty-six to thirty inches, added to which, it is very productive.

Lancashire Witch.—Most readers acquainted with cucumbers know the variety called Sion House. This is an improvement on that variety.

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DWARF MAMMOTH PEA.—Resembling Knight's Green Marrow in flavour and colour, but the peas are larger, and the habit of the plant is much more dwarf, seldom, if ever, rising above a yard high.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE SYSTEM OF PRUNING PYRAMIDAL PEAR TREES ADOPTED BY M. L. P. CAPPE, OF THE JARDIN DES PLANTES, PARIS.

SUPPOSING the branches of a tree are properly thinned and regulated at the winter pruning, and that so far as they extend their number is quite sufficient for the space they occupy, presuming also that the tree is in good health, a number of laterals are sure to spring. They are, of course, superfluous, and should be pinched when in a young state; M. Cappe shortening them when they have scarcely pushed the length of a finger, to about an inch, or from that to an inch and a half. The portion left forms the basis of one or more fruit buds, bearing fruit in the following season, or a spur on which blossom buds are formed for bearing the second season. If the last year's shoot has been shortened at the winter pruning, then, besides the terminal one on the part left, one, two, or three, next to it, are almost sure to push, and these M. Cappe commences to check, by pinching, when about three inches in length; but those nearer the base of the shoot he allows to grow till they attain the length of six or eight inches, before he shortens them. The terminal bud is, of course, allowed to go on, for the prolongation of the branch. It frequently happens in France, and the liability will be still greater in the climate of England, that after a shoot is pinched back, the newly-formed buds on the

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part left will push a secondary shoot in the same season. When this is the case with those under the care of M. Cappe, he also pinches these secondary shoots to an inch or an inch and a half from where they originate. They rarely push again, but if they do, their growths are again reduced as before.

The *winter pruning* of the pyramid pear tree is almost reduced to a mechanical operation, when the summer management has been properly attended to. Keeping the tapering form in view, it consists in cutting each shoot a little shorter than the one immediately below it, taking care to cut to a bud situated on the side of the shoot toward that direction in which it would be most desirable the prolongation should proceed. Shoots that are too vigorous for the rest are not cut to a bud on the upper side, but to one situated below.

Some trees appear to be much admired by everyone, on account of the introduction of another feature of regularity in training, besides that of a merely tapering contour. These had what is called a *tutor*—that is, a straight perpendicular stake, to which the stem is trained; and from the top of this stake five wires are stretched out to as many equidistant points on a hoop near the ground, or, in one instance, to five short stakes. These wires represent the angles of a five-sided pyramid—a pyramid apparently fifteen feet high, on a pentagonal base. Branches are trained directly from the stem to each of these wires. In order to convey some idea of these trees, one may imagine five upright trellises or screens, projecting from a central upright, forming the partitions of as many equal recesses, widening outwards. The branches form such partitions with good effect, as regards regularity, and when they become ornamented with leaves and fruit, the whole must prove an interesting sight. The trees had a fruitful appearance.

Instead of the branches radiating from the stem in five directions, it might be found more convenient to train them out to four points—say east, west,

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north, and south. It may, however, be observed, that in the pear tree, five buds form a spiral round the shoot or stem; or, in other words, supposing the leading shoot to be perpendicular, every fifth, tenth, fifteenth, &c. bud will be in the same vertical plane. Therefore, if the number of buds between one branch and that next above it be always a multiple of five, the branches radiating in each of the five directions will originate exactly above each other.

The trees above described had been formerly grown as pyramids, in the usual way, with branches extending promiscuously, but M. Cappe is of opinion, that by commencing with a young tree, the tutor and wires may be dispensed with. In exposed situations, the wires form excellent stays, and where they are employed, a comparatively slender stake is sufficient.

Journal of the Horticultural Society.

AN EFFECTUAL MODE OF EXPELLING INSECTS FROM A GARDEN.

A SIMPLE and most effectual mode of ridding the fruit garden of insects of every description, which we recommend as a general extirpator, suited to all situations, is the following:—Take a number of common bottles, the wider-mouthed the better, and fill them about half full of a mixture of water, molasses, and vinegar. Suspend these among the branches of trees, and in various parts of the garden. In a fortnight they will be found full of dead insects of every description not too large to enter the bottles—wasps, flies, beetles, slugs, grubs, and a great variety of others. The bottles must now be emptied, and the liquid renewed. A zealous amateur of our acquaintance caught last season (1844), in this way, *more than three bushels* of insects, and what is more satisfactory, preserved his garden almost entirely against their attacks in any shape.

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The assistance of birds in destroying insects should be duly estimated by the fruit-grower. The quantity of eggs and insects in various states devoured annually by birds, when they are encouraged in gardens, is truly surprising. It is true that one or two species of these, as the ring-tail, annoy us by preying upon the earlier cherries, but even taking this into account, we are inclined to believe that we can much better spare a reasonable share of a few fruits, than dispense with the good services of birds, in ridding us of an excess of insects.

The most serviceable birds are, the common sparrows, the wren, the red-breast, and in short, most of the birds of this class. All these birds should be encouraged to build nests and inhabit the fruit garden; and this may most effectually be done by not allowing a gun to be fired within its boundaries. The introduction of hedges, or live fences, greatly promotes the domestication of birds, as they afford an admirable shelter for their nests. Our own gardens are usually much more free from insects than those a mile or two distant, and we attribute this in part to our practice of encouraging birds, and to the thorn and arbor-vitæ hedges growing here, which are greatly resorted to by those of the feathered tribe which are the greatest enemies to the insect race.

Among animals, the *toad* and the *bat* are the great insect destroyers. The common bat lives almost entirely upon them, and in its evening sallies devours a great number of moths, beetles, weevils, &c.; and the toad quietly makes away with numberless small insects.

Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.

COMPOST FOR AURICULAS.—The following, from long experience, has proved an excellent compost for auriculas. Our practice has been to cultivate these flowers expressly for exhibition, we can therefore give it with confidence:—Four measures of night-soil,

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well decomposed; two measures of sheep manure, ditto; two measures of heath peat, taken from beneath the wild heath of the commons, about four inches from the surface (not deeper), so that it is full of decayed vegetable matter; two measures of light sandy yellow loam, full of fibre; and one measure of very fine sand—that used by brick-makers about London, for moulding the bricks in, is excellent for the purpose. We have accustomed ourselves to screen these articles, before mixing, to ensure having the proper quantities.—I. T. NEVILLE.—*The Florist.*

JOAN OF ARC TULIP.—The heavy feathered rose, which won second at York, and was supposed by some to be a Walworth, we are assured by Mr. Naylor, of Denton, is a seedling from Rose Vesta. It flowered in the breeder state in 1847, and became rectified in the following season, when it was in as good condition as when exhibited at York. We hope this explanation will satisfy those who supposed it Walworth; for ourselves, we never thought it other than a seedling.

COMPOSITION FOR WOUNDS MADE IN PRUNING APPLE TREES.—In pruning large limbs, some composition should always be at hand to cover the wound. This will not only prevent its cracking by the cold, in winter pruning, but will keep out the air, and maintain the exposed wood in a sound state, until it is covered with a new layer of bark. Many compositions have been in fashion abroad for this purpose, which, under our summer sun and winter frosts, are nearly worthless, as they generally crack and fall off in a single year. The following is a cheap and admirable application, which we recommend to all cultivators of fruit trees:—Take a quart of alcohol, and dissolve in it as much gum shellac as will make it a liquid of the consistence of paint. Apply this to the wound with a common painter's brush, always paring the wound smoothly first, with the knife. The liquid becomes perfectly hard, adheres closely, excludes the

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air perfectly, and is affected by no change of weather; while at the same time, its thinness offers no resistance to the lip of the new bark that gradually closes over the wound. If the composition is kept in a well-corked bottle, sufficiently wide-mouthed to admit the brush, it will always be ready for use, and suited to the want of the moment.—*Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.*

ONIONS.—As people will now begin to think about what sorts they had better sow, we give the following from Messrs. Rendle's Catalogue, which we have before noticed favourably:—

White Spanish, or Portugal.—Best for general crop. [This variety is also excellent for drawing young, and well adapted for sauce, being one of the mildest.]
Brown Portugal.—Resembles the above, except in colour. Good for general crop.
Strasburg.—Large and good.
Deptford.—Good keeper.
Reading.—Good keeper.
Brown Globe.—Mild, excellent large-growing sort, but does not keep well.
New White Globe.—Large heavy cropper, like the preceding.
James's Long-keeping.—A very good variety, keeps sound longer than any other
Blood Red.—Strong-flavoured, very hardy.

REVIEWS.

A PACKET OF SEEDS, SAVED BY AN OLD GARDENER. *London: Chapman & Hall, Strand.*

A QUAINT title to a most excellent little book, which we are sure may be read with pleasure and profit by both masters and gardeners. How often has a good gardener lost his place by acting as James Gregory did, but not been so fortunate as him, in regaining it. But we give his own words: he says, "I've learnt—aye, and bitterly too, once in my life, that if good men are scarce, good places are not like hedge fruit

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in the autumn. I've heard men, when they've got discharged and been a bit fuddled, say, 'I don't care, more places than parish churches.' That 'don't care' saying does a deal of harm, for men use it till they believe it; and very often, when they say it loudest, they care the most; but young people catch the word, and soon find the trouble 'don't care' brings. But I am forgetting my story. I was now a sober man, a steady man, and as to work, it never frightened me. People saw this, and where they used to call me James, or Gregory, now they called me 'Mr. Gregory.' The Bible says true enough, 'Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.' I began to take on; *and if the Squire gave me any orders, I did not take 'em as I ought to have done.* If he had a plan, I had a plan; If he wanted anything done, I was just going to do it, *only*, something or other; and then I was always saying, 'I'm sure I'm always at work; I do the best I can,' and the like. I little thought what was coming, and all of a sudden too. One evening, when I went in as usual, with my book, at the end of the month, after the Squire had looked it over, he turned full to me, and lifting his spectacles off his nose, said, 'Gardener, I wish you to get another place. I give you a month's notice, and I'll give you a month's pay besides; but in a month, the man I have taken on will be here. You want your way in everything, and I'll have my own. If you do all you can, you are always telling me so, and I want a man that'll recollect that I do my part too.' My eyes flew open like a pair of window shutters, and I saw all as clear as if I'd just come out of a wood; but it was no use asking him to let me stay with him. He heard all I had to say, but still the same answer, 'My new man will be here in a month.'"

Now we are sure there are many James Gregorys in the world, and earnestly do we hope they will read and profit by the above. But though this is a hard hit at gardeners, the squires also come in for their

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share; for it is clearly exemplified that many a good and clever gardener becomes dissipated and a drunkard, in consequence of the culpable indifference of his employer as to the comforts of his men. We have often seen the rooms, or *holes* in fact, appropriated to the use of the journeymen, not fit for a savage to live in, much less intelligent and clever men.

We much wish a cheap edition, at threepence, like our own little book, were published, and that every master, as well as every servant (whether gardener or not) might become purchasers; we are sure they would not regret the outlay, and we are equally sure that all would be benefitted.

BECK'S FLORIST. No. 25. *Chapman & Hall*, 186, *Strand, London.*

THE year commences with an excellent number. The illustrations are the splendid stove plants *Hoya bella* and *Mitraria coccinea*, the latter a handsome hardy greenhouse plant, with scarlet pentstemon-looking flowers. The principal papers are, Ventilating Frame for Auriculas, Transplanting Roses, Northern Tulips, an interesting one entitled Rambles in the West in search of British Plants, on the Properties of the Pelargonium, &c. The calendar is printed in a smaller type, which gives room for much interesting matter.

Part III.

QUERIES.

Amongst the various readers of your valuable little work, the *Midland Florist*, some one, no doubt, can give me information on the subject I require—the management of gold fish. I have a tank, about two feet deep, in a cold greenhouse, for

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watering the plants; in this I have gold fishes, but they have never been healthy. What I wish to know is, should the bottom be covered with mud or gravel? should the water be often changed? and should any food be given? of what kind, and how often? As I have known them breed in such situations, I would further like to know whether pot feeders, filled with gravel or mud, and placed near the top of the water, where the fish might deposit their spawn, would not forward the object; and if so, how near the surface of the water will be necessary. If any of your readers will answer these questions, it will confer a favour. Perhaps at the same time it will be said if the fish readily breed in such situations, and what size they reach before this is accomplished in the tank. I also wish to grow some aquatic plants, of a dwarf kind, and at the same time, perhaps a list will be given, of such as would be ornamental, and healthy for the fishes.

Would you please to inform me, in your next, whether you have a plant called Asteospermum cœruleum, a native of the Cape of Good Hope, and bearing a blue flower? the cost of a plant, proper time of setting, &c. and where to be procured, if you have not got it?

Sutton-in Ashfield. H. Bryan, *Surgeon.*

Have you any new sorts of apples, beyond those communicated for a rood of land? I am about planting an acre, and shall be glad of the names of a few more. I. W.

Which are the best melons in cultivation? and can I grow them in a frame, with a small quantity of manure? A reply in your next will oblige. W. M.

A list of a few of the best verbenas, calceolarias, and hollyhocks will oblige A Constant Subscriber.

Has any of your Leeds friends yet sent you a packet of their celery seed, alluded to in a late number? If they have any more to dispose of, I should like to purchase some.

Henry Smith.

I shall esteem it a favour, if you will insert, in the earliest number of the *Midland Florist*, the names of a dozen good auriculas, three in each class, with the prices attached. By so doing you will oblige a subscriber. James Nicholls.

[*Green-edged*—Booth's Freedom, 5s.; Faulkner's Ne plus ultra, 3s.; Oliver's Lovely Ann, 2s.—*Grey-edged*—Waterhouse's Conqueror of Europe, 7s. 6d.; Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, 7s. 6d.; Kenyon's Ringleader, 1s. 6d.—*White-edged*—Taylor's Glory, 1s. 6d.; Lord of Hallamshire, 1s. 6d.; Hepworth's True Briton, 5s.—*Selfs.*—Redman's Metropolitan, 5s.; Barker's Nonsuch, 3s. 6d.; Clegg's Blue Bonnet, 2s. 6d.]

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Will you inform me, in your next number, of the best manner of cultivating the hydrangea? I have some plants which come up luxuriantly, but never blossom. I have tried soot to preserve my carnations from rabbits, and it has *not* succeeded. Can you recommend any other preventive? also anything that will preserve tulip roots from mice. They do not attack them until the young leaves just peep over ground. C. I. P.

[For the hydrangeas try root-pruning now. Insert a sharp spade, apout a foot from the stem, round the bush, cutting through the fibres. This will check over luxuriance, and, we think, have the desired effect. To keep rabbits from pinks, it is perhaps cheapest to grow them in a compartment by themselves, and surround the bed with wire netting, which may now be purchased at a low price. Or try Mr. Rivers's plan: dip small pieces of cloth in brimstone, and attach them to sticks, a foot high, like little flags. This has been found very efficacious. The mice which attack the tulip roots may speedily be caught by setting, with a brick and three small pieces of stick, what is called a figure of four trap. We have often been thus annoyed, but speedily exterminated them by this very simple means.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VERBENAS.—T.R.—We should say a cool frame, or the top shelf of a greenhouse, when they can be kept near the light. They do very well without fire-heat, but are susceptible of damp.

CELERY.—The Matchless is a good sort, but Law's Giant White, Seymour's Superb White, Jones's Red, and Perkins's Giant Red, are all better.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR FEBRUARY.

AFTER the continued frost and snow that we have had, the ground which had previously been thrown up in ridges will be found to work well, and when dry, may at any time be levelled and cropped. The first crop of *kidney potatoes* may now be

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planted; and in order to give them every chance, we would advise the land to be dressed with lime, and thrown up into beds, something like those for asparagus, making a trench, eighteen inches to two feet wide, between them, which, acting as a drain, will keep the soil dry; for we have found that not only our own, but also our neighbour's potatoes suffered most in damp and undrained situations, during the few past years. It may be worth while to sprinkle a small quantity of *radish seed* on the beds, after the potatoes are planted, covering the whole with litter. If the beds are made four feet wide, when the potatoes are taken up, the trenches may be deepened, the potatoe tops put therein, and a quantity of thoroughly decomposed manure, rotten leaves, &c. placed on the top, when the ground will do for celery, and thus, with care, and some little attention, three crops may be taken during the year—*radishes, kidney potatoes,* and *celery;* and what with the lime, the hoeing and forking the potatoes, the manure for the celery, and the culture attendant upon that, the ground will be kept clean and in excellent condition for the next year's crop.

Peas may now be sown, and would be a capital succession on land treated as we have described above. The varieties of this favourite vegetable are becoming very numerous; in fact, their name is legion, and amid many really good sorts, it is difficult to select the best. The Ringwood Marrow, though not very "eyeable," is, nevertheless, excellent. Then there is Fairbeard's Champion of England, which we think all our readers will like; it is also a fine sort for exhibition; all cottagers ought to grow this variety.

Beans may be got in. Johnson's Wonderful, for a heavy crop, we still consider one of the best; and Taylor's Windsor is also a very superior sort.

Cucumbers should be raised in heat. Amongst the best are Cheltenham Surprise and a few others, which will be found enumerated in another place.

Artichokes.—The Jerusalem variety may be put in. We are no advocates for this vegetable in small gardens, its large sunflowerlike stem causing much shade. Where space is no object, it may be tried as a substitute (though a bad one) for the potato.

Lettuce.—Sow a small quantity on a sheltered border. Ady's Coss is excellent, Snow's Compact Coss is new and highly recommended, but we have not yet grown it.

Nail *wall trees* whenever opportunity serves, and finish pruning *currant* and *gooseberry trees* without delay.

Slightly fork *asparagus beds,* dig out the manure which has been buried in the trenches, and top-dress the beds with it; replenish the trenches with fresh dung, treading it down well, and covering up with soil. Here will be an excellent place for a few early *cauliflowers.*

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Dress *strawberry beds*. We prefer leaving it till this time, as the leaves have afforded the buds good protection during the past frost. Make fresh plantations, where not previously done. As a new and very fine sort, Kitley's Goliath is strongly recommended.

In the flower garden, preparations should now be made for the coming spring. Add to the beds, where possible, a dressing of mixed cow manure and leaves, well decomposed. This should be forked in, care being taken not to destroy the bulbs, &c. We do not like a spade for this purpose, a flat-grained fork, not too large, is in every way preferable. Repair gaps in the *box edgings*. Many of the hardier *annuals* may now be sown. It often happens that where *erisymums*, *escholtzias*, *nemophyllas*, &c. grew the last year, many self-sown plants have appeared during the autumn; if these are removed with a small trowel, where wanted, they make stout plants, generally flowering much earlier and better than those sown in the spring.

In florists' flowers, *tulips*, as they show themselves above ground, should be covered with river sand; and should the weather prove sharp, it will be advisable to give further protection, in the shape of mats, &c.

Dahlias may be put to work in gentle heat. The shoots, when they have attained the length of three inches, may be taken off, and they will strike root in sand, on a moderate hot-bed. The first crop do not root so well as thinner cuttings..

Carnations and *picotees* will require abundance of air, and occasional waterings. Look over the stock, to see what have died during the winter, and give the necessary orders for their replacement. Carefully clean the plants, and gently stir the surface soil.

As for *auriculas* and *polyanthuses*, the seed of both may be sown in shallow pans, well drained. The soil should be fine, and pressed down; sprinkle the seed over the surface, not covering deeper than this paper. If a pane of glass is laid over the pan, it will prevent those extremes of drought which are so prejudicial to the vegetating seeds, and at the same time keep the surface more regularly moist.

Carefully brush off green fly, when observed, with a camel hair brush, and give more water. A gentle shower, for a short time, would be highly beneficial.

Plant *ranunculuses* about the second week, and fill up all gaps on the *pink* and *pansy beds*, from those plants which have been reserved in pots.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

INARCHING.

BY THE EDITOR.

SOMEBODY asked us, in our last year's volume, to tell them something about inarching, or *grafting by approach*. As March is the season for this operation, we will endeavour to describe how it is performed, in as explicit and simple terms as we can. No doubt it has often been described before, and will be many a time again; but that is no reason why we should not endeavour to be of service to those who may seek information on this subject.

Inarching is generally adopted when there is some difficulty in succeeding with the common mode of grafting; for instance, with such things as the Variegated Turkey Oak *(Quercus cerris variegata)* and the Purple Beech *(Fagus purpurea)*, amongst hardy trees, and with the Camellia Japonica, in greenhouse plants. Instead of a scion or graft being removed from the one, and fitted on to the other, it is usual to plant the common beech and the Turkey oak round the respective trees from which it is desirable to propagate. Suppose then, six or seven shoots of the previous year's growth are selected; close to these may be planted stocks of any suitable kind. They must be young and kindly grown, the thickness of the finger, and sufficiently long to reach twelve inches above the branches to which it is intended to attach them. After proceeding thus far, the remaining part of the process is simple enough. With a sharp knife, cut a slice from the *under part* of the shoot, about an inch, or an inch and a half long, then, on

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the inner side of the stock, take a slice as nearly similar as possible, at the upper part cutting a tongue which shall have an upward direction; then bring the shoot (in the upper part of the incision in which a tongue, pointing downwards, must also be cut) into contact with the stock, fitting the two tongues within each other, and taking care that the bark on one side at least of both shoot (or scion) and stock meet and fit closely. Of course, when, from similarity in size in the parts operated upon, both sides meet, it is better. They must then be tightly bound with bast matting, in the way of common grafting, and clayed in a similar manner. It is advisable to tie the point of the shoot to the head of the stock, to prevent accidents; and at the same time, place a ligature of matting about two or three inches below the graft, round both the stock and the lower part of the scion, to keep all secure.

Last year, amongst other plants, we inarched the Silver Variegated Hornbeam, the Gold-striped Scarlet Maple, the Weeping Larch, the Cut-leaved Birch, the Variegated Common Oak, and the Variegated Turkey Oak.

The same plan may be adopted with the camellia, though sometimes cuttings are taken, and being attached as described above, the lower part of the scion is placed in a phial of water. We think, with the above description and a little experience, any of our readers may manage to *inarch;* and though success may not crown the first trial, yet "practice makes perfect."

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Donna Maria (Strong).—Third-row byblœmen. Distinct beam, with flame, occasionally abrupt, of a light plum colour. The price now about 2s. 6d.

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Cynthia.—Third-row byblœmen. Well-marked flame and feather, of a violet blue. 7s. 6d.; in some catalogues, at 30s.

Earl of Lincoln (Groom).—Orange ground, brilliant red marking, extra fine flame. Second-row bizarre. £5 5s.

Prince Albert (Groom).—Second-row bizarre. Lemon ground, feathering densely thick and long, the colour almost black, with a chocolate hue. £3 3s.

Niquette.—Rosy byblœmen, flamed, by some called a rose. First or second row. 7s. 6d.

General Dessaix (Clark).—Third or fourth-row byblœmen. Flamed, with a little feather, sometimes grand, which was the case with all of them the last season.

Respectable (Jeffery).—Second or third-row byblœmen. The marking much after the fashion of Cynthia, but the cup rather long.

Sir Edward Pellew (Groom).—First or second-row byblœmen. Good flame, pale violet. This also is long-cupped. 2s. 6d.

Rose Mary (Jeffery).—Second or third-row flamed, dies off a rosy byblœmen.

Nora Criena (Lyde).—Third-row byblœmen. Feather and flame, marking much after Holmes's George IV., but decidedly richer in colour. In a favourable season the feather predominates. Truly good and first-rate. £5 5s.

Nelson (Foy).—First-row seedling bizarre. A good steady flower, of a fine Charbonnier character. 10s.

Orion (Clark).—Second or third-row bizarre, of the Milton character. When well done, good, but sports.

Commodore Napier (Groom).—Second-row bizarre. Ground rich yellow, flamed, with brown feather. 15s.

Patty (Lawrence).—This, in its best state, feathered only, sometimes flame and feather. I have seen many fine blooms, with the white pure, and the feathering distinct and dark. It is a third-row byblœmen. £3 3s.

Euclid.—Second-row byblœmen. Delicate flame and feather of a pale blue. The majority extra delicate this last season. 7s. 6d.

Marshall's Rose.—I take this to be like Rose Brilliante.

Marshal Soult.—The Rev. S. Creswell is correct in describing this flower (vol. 2, p. 308), but I will add a little thereto. There are two strains, the one feather, and the other flame and feather, but I am inclined to think this is capricious; however it is good in either state.

Chateau Margeaux.—Third-row byblœmen. A well-defined flame and a little feather, tolerably steady, and frequently very attractive.

Diogenes (Lawrence).—Third-row byblœmen. A pucy purple flame and feather. 10s. 6d.

Prince Albert (Page).—Third-row bizarre. Good yellow, red flame, the petals are thin.

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WHAT IS A LIGHT-EDGED PICOTEE?

I AM very much pleased with the remarks of your correspondent, H. S. M., on our favourite flowers, carnations, and hope he will continue them, as proposed, through the classes, including, of course, the picotees; particularly as I am anxious to have the opinion of several of your readers, on the subject of the correct standard for the marking of this beautiful tribe of flowers; and then we may hope to obtain an answer to my question at the head of this letter.

I will not stay to offer any observations on what your correspondent has said of scarlet bizarres, although I cannot altogether agree to some of his conclusions, and, moreover, he has limited himself to a smaller number of flowers than could have been wished; not, however, that I grow even that number of different varieties myself.

The numerous seedling picotees annually obtained, and which greatly enhance the interest of cultivating these gems, is sufficient, in my opinion, to call for some more definite rule as to what should in future be termed a "light-edged picotee;" and many cultivators are inclined to think that the distinction should be confined to those flowers only which have a *thread-like* mark continuously round the extreme edge of each petal, without the slightest *feathering* towards the centre; and that all such as have the least feather, however small, should be classed as "heavy-edged," in which there need not be any limit, as to the width of the feathering or marking.

I must, however, say, that I am in some degree prejudiced in favour of as bold a marking for the heavy-edged class as can possibly be obtained, without making the flower appear a *self*, by the inner petals being too long to leave any of the white ground visible; but this, be it observed, is not the fault of the heavy marking, but of the length of the petals.

Perhaps it will be more tangible, if your readers will take up the subject by naming some flowers

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more esteemed for their correct marking than others, with their conclusions as to which should be the standard; as, for instance, Sharp's Duke of Wellington in the reds, and Wood's Princess Alice in the purples, are two very differently marked flowers in the heavy class; but I submit that the former is not heavy enough for *the standard*, nor do I think the latter would be too heavy, if the inner petals decreased in length, as they should, but do not, towards the centre.

Of course I do not wish to introduce the discussion of the other properties of a standard for a picotee, in order to determine what is the best width for the marking, as I think there are very few, if any, objectors to the smoothest edge possible, the thickest and broadest petal, and the most regular decrease in the length of each tier of petals towards the centre,—although I am sorry to say there is, or appears to be, some difference of opinion as to the number of the petals, or, in other words, the thinness or the fullness of the flower; and I must here beg to observe, that I like all the petals I can get, so that they do not altogether hide the ground colour, in the way before described.

I need scarcely add, that your own experience on the subject will, as usual, be received with very great pleasure.

I regret to see the adverse opinion of a Lancashire florist, on the subject of the proper lacing for pinks, and feel confident he is depreciating the merits of the flower, by contending for an imperfect standard. However it is of little use theorising about the point; much better to adopt Mr. Glenny's method, as stated in his almanack for the present year, and place the two best flowers that can be procured side by side—one with and one without the white edge outside the lacing—and the decision will not occupy any great space of time.

While on the subject of picotees, I may just mention the very great satisfaction I experienced last

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blooming season, from the use of my (so called) "Patent Flower Protector" (described at page 134, vol. 3), and observe, that I have made an improvement upon what I before communicated, by mixing a little yellow ochre and size together, with warm water, and applying it with a brush to the inner side of the glasses, about two-thirds of the circumference, which supersedes the necessity of shading; having had blooms preserved from sun, rain, and wind as perfectly as if kept in a sitting room, whilst the grass has had the benefit of the air, rain, and light. The yellow colouring is considered by those competent to judge, in a scientific point of view, as the best for bringing out the colours of the flowers, whilst red is best for ripening fruit, and blue for propagating seeds and plants.

BENJAMIN VIALLS.

Dern-gate, Northampton. Jan. 1850.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

BY H. S. M.

ENCOURAGED by your approval of my two previous descriptive papers of carnations, I will now take the scarlet flakes, and observe that, a fine old variety is

Pearson's Madame Mara, though but seldom seen in lists now. The white is much better than many of recent introduction, and the scarlet vivid and well defined. Many seedlings have been raised from it, but few superior to the parent. Stern's Dr. Barnes was one of these, but I have not seen it catalogued lately.

Brown's Bishop of Gloucester is a sweet variety, very steady, and of excellent form; the pod is good, and the marking regular and brilliant.

Bucknall's Ulysses.—A flower of the largest size, and a most splendid and dazzling colour. It approximates to the south country flowers in the multitude of its petals. The white is good, a point in which many of this class are defective, and when well grown, it may be called a very superior sort.

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Creswell's Premier.—Second-rate, inclined to be small, and though well ribboned and colour high, the white is very defective.

Greasley's Mary Ann.—Larger than the preceding, good formed petals, and well flaked. The scarlet is, however, duller than I like, though I have grown this flower in good character.

Toone's Ringleader.—A coarse but showy flower. I recollect giving 10s. 6d. for the first pair which the raiser parted with, and it was thought a monstrous price. The flakes are apt to come too broad, often taking half the petal, and thus monopolizing too much of the flower; in fact, the scarlet preponderates. The grass, or foliage, is broad, and the whole plant is very robust. A second or third-rate flower.

Oldham's Defiance.—This, with the three preceding varieties, was raised in the neighbourhood of Nottingham. It is also a large and attractive flower, form good, stout petals, white rather defective, occasionally may be caught fine, but, generally speaking, second rate.

Wilson's William IV.—This flower has been before the public some years, and yet retains its position. It is large and brilliant, the white far superior to many others, and will, when well grown, take much beating. I should say, still *first-rate.*

Merryweather's Jenny Lind.—One of the largest scarlet flakes I ever remember to have seen. As far as size, form, and colour go, it is a noble flower, but an inferior ground colour detracts from its merit. This, I think, may in some measure be obviated, by a peculiar mode of culture, which ought to be followed with all flowers of this description. If the white can be improved, it will stand in the first class.

Hardwick's Firebrand.—This is also a great favourite of mine. The white is very good, form and general character excellent. Raised at Wellingborough, near Northampton. It should be in every collection, however small, being a safe flower.

Willmer's Hero of Middlesex.—One of the better sorts of scarlet flakes, and a variety that I have often been successful with. The white and scarlet are very equally distributed, and it will often prove "a slipper."

Hollyoak's Dido.—This I have seen first-rate in every respect, having size, colour, purity, and form in its favour. It appears to be rather shy of increase, and has, I believe, been very nearly lost more than once or twice.

Beauty of Cradley (Wallis).—The raiser of this flower has originated several other varieties, which are said to eclipse the one above-named. It is of medium size, the flower well formed and beautifully marked with vivid scarlet. It is apt, however, to flush. Were the white pure, it would stand very forward

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Marquis of Granby (Simpson).—This I believe to be a Yorkshire flower, raised at Sheffield, or the neighbourhood. The petals are thick, but rather narrow at the base; the stripes, of vivid scarlet, are very decided; and the white tolerably good. This sort, though rather shy with me, should be grown.

Queen Victoria, by the same grower, is a most robust sort, the foliage generally having a very gross appearance. The flower is large and fine, with well-formed thick petals, and the colour brilliant. This variety, when well done, will prove a troublesome competitor to the best of them.

Rowton (Maud).—A variety with dark scarlet stripes and inferior ground colour, only, in comparison, fit for a border flower, though I have excluded it altogether, for I think it is far preferable to place good flowers in the borders (old stools, for instance, which produced a crop of layers last year), in order that there may be a chance of procuring seed. I have often gathered more seed from a dozen plants, comparatively uncared for, than from all my collection besides.

COPPICEANA.

No. II.

THE next plants we shall notice are the Almonds *(Amygdalus)*, a beautiful tribe of early-flowering deciduous trees and shrubs.

The Double Dwarf Chinese Almond is a very pretty low-growing shrub, with narrow pointed leaves, and producing a profusion of pale pink flowers. It is usually budded low, on the plum stock, but occasionally it is seen worked (budded) standard high, when it makes a very handsome lawn tree. Dwarf plants, 1s.

Amygdalus Communis (The Fruit-bearing Almond) forms a large tree, even in Nottinghamshire. The flowers are pink, and it blooms very early in the spring. Desirable for mixed shrubberies. Standard trees, six feet, 1s.

A. Pendula. (The Weeping Almond.)—A most interesting and graceful tree, being a great acquisition to those who are fond of drooping plants, which we ourselves are very partial to. It requires budding on the plum stock, or perhaps it might do better on the single almond; at all events, it is a good thing, and, we are sure, will be extensively grown. 2s. 6d.

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A. Communis Flore Pleno. (The Double-flowering Almond.)—This is widely different from the Chinese, partaking of the robust habit of the common, or fruit-bearing variety, and producing double pink flowers. We have not yet seen it bloom. We are growing the plant for the first time this spring; but we understand, and in fact, have no doubt, that it will be handsome. As we have not propagated it, we cannot quote price.

A. Nana Alba. (The Dwarf White Almond).—The Dwarf Pink is a very nice little shrub, with single flowers. The above is a variety with small white blooms. Our specimen plant is grafted on the plum stock, about five feet high. Last spring, it was covered with white blossoms, and promises to be equally beautiful this. It forms a compact and shrubby head.

A. Nana Georgica (The Georgian Almond) is also a dwarf bush, with pink flowers. They are small and single. With us, as a standard, it was an interesting small tree; we cannot, however, say a great deal in its favour.

A. Incanus. (The Hoary-leaved Almond.)—A very singular small tree. The foliage is narrow, and of a silvery hue, perfectly distinct from all the others. The flowers are produced the whole length of the branches; and though neither large nor very bright, still we admire it much for its distinctness. We raise it from layers of the previous year's wood. 1s.

A. Macrocarpa. (The Long-fruited Almond.)—This is a robust and stout-growing variety, in the style of the common, or Fruit-bearing. It is more compact in its growth, with flowers larger and lighter in colour. It is a very desirable early-blooming tree. Worth 1s. per plant.

Alnus *(The Alder).*

These are trees adapted for wet situations, flourishing by the side of brooks and rivers. The banks of the Derwent are fringed with the common variety. The ornamental sorts which we grow are, first,

Alnus Cordata. (The Heart-leaved Alder.)—A really beautiful tree, not seen half so often as it deserves to be. It is of good habit, foliage dark green, smooth, and abundant. It retains its leaves very late, long after other deciduous trees around it are bare. Propagated by layers of the previous year's shoots. Plants 6d. to 1s. each.

A. Laciniata. (The Cut-leaved Alder.)—The foliage, as its name implies, is much indented, in fact, elegantly so. A well-marked and good variety. Propagated by layers, forming, in suitable soil, abundant roots the first season. 6d.

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A. Quercifolia. (The Oak-leaved Alder.)—This is a small tree, somewhat in the character of the preceding, the indentations of the leaves not being so pointed; neither does it with us grow so robust as the other. A very nice sort. 6d. each.

The Gold and Silver-striped Alders are two varieties received a few years ago, from the Continent. The first season, their foliage was partially blotched; since which period they have grown very luxuriantly on our soil, and the leaves have been wholly destitute of variegation. We shall, this spring, try root-pruning, which, by checking the rapid growth, may possibly induce the latent disease (variegation) again to show itself.

TO THE TULIP GROWERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

GENTLEMEN,

As you have been addressed by Mr. Dixon, on the subject of the Great Northern Tulip Meeting, I claim the courtesy of a reply.

I feel highly gratified with the expression of feeling on all sides as to the dissensions between two rival parties, as they are termed, but that expression of feeling is falsely based. The breach is not as wide as is supposed, and a little good feeling would soon make all right. With the exception of a few, there is the most perfect good feeling on the part of the Lancashire amateurs. As a proof of this, no less than eight out of the twenty-one members who have joined Mr. Dixon and his friends are likewise subscribers to the exhibition which I represent; and probably when I see the others, they also will join. I have not been refused by any I have yet seen and asked. This, I think, will convince our distant friends of the feeling amongst us, *and ought to be generally known.*

There has been on our part, I am happy to say, every disposition to cultivate an amicable feeling, and to promote floriculture as much as possible; and if we have included an horticultural exhibition, it is that we may make it as attractive as possible; and in lending a hand to our brother horticulturists, we are doing our duty, by showing that *we love our neighbours as ourselves.* They, as well as florists, have been much neglected in this part, and a great interest is taken at the present time to give encouragement to both, and in doing so, we are not devoting our money to their use, as *they find their own prize money and we ours.* Thus, by combining, we lessen expenses, and promote that good understanding which should exist

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amongst all classes. Our patronage is not merely names, but with the addition of something *sterling*, and it has much increased since we advertised. Our officers have also given sums varying from one to two pounds

Mr. Dixon omits to mention that it was publicly stated, that if the subscription was increased, the growers would have one at five shillings; and also that everything was arranged by four individuals, and then, instead of being submitted to a *public meeting*, only such as were known to be favourable to their views were made acquainted with it. This was good policy, as the majority would have been greatly against them; and had they the interest of floriculture at heart, they would have yielded to public opinion, instead of letting their secretary fan a spark into a flame. I would ask if ten shillings will make the show more select? Will it not have a tendency to lessen the number of subscribers? Cannot a man who pays five shillings be as honest as one who pays ten? and ought not every *honest florist*, whose means are limited, to be allowed to have his inclination gratified at a small expense? and ought not *their richer brethren to contribute largely*, to encourage them? *He is no sterling florist who makes pounds, shillings, and pence his fundamental principle.* It was never supposed at York that they would have acted in the manner they have, or else an amendment would have been proposed, and the *whole truth laid bare.* The wish of all was to lay aside party spirit and petty quarrels, and work in unison with each other, striving who should do the most to conduce to a great meeting.

I must, in conclusion, express my acknowledgements to those who have fulfilled their promises to the letter, and exhort them to do all *with a good and Christian feeling.*

I am yours faithfully,

JOHN SLATER, SECRETARY.

Cheetham Hill, near Manchester, Feb. 2, 1850.

N.B.—It may be interesting to our distant friends to state, that some years ago, at a public exhibition, held in Manchester, the sum of two hundred and thirty-six pounds was taken at the door, in about four hours.

[On the principle of hearing both sides, and to avoid the charge of partiality, which has been more than once hinted at, we insert the above reply, observing, that we deeply regret the difference which has arisen amongst the florists of Lancashire. Mr. Slater will perceive that we have been obliged to prune the communication; and if that pruning will be the means of producing a more abundant crop of unity, we shall be glad. We shall now, however, avoid all further discussion on the matter, and hope to have a more pleasant task in reporting on the flowers which may be exhibited.]

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

WALKER'S CHERRY RED CURRANT.—We are always anxious about this description of fruits, and our list now contains nineteen varieties. We saw the above advertised, and ordered two dozen, requesting at the same time *its history*, for we like to have "chapter and verse" for these kind of things. The gentleman from whom we ordered it sent the following reply:—"I went, yesterday, to Mr. Walker's to inquire the history of his currant, but all he knew about it was, that a relative of his brought it somewhere out of Cheshire. It has been several years in high repute in this neighbourhood, indeed we are asked for no other red currant. The fruit is large, the trees remarkably robust, and of a different habit to any I ever saw. I went to look at them last summer but one, and they were quite a sight. The bushes were very large, I should think six yards in circumference, and I could liken the fruit on them to nothing more than a swarm of bees, they were so clustered in some parts of the trees."

THE LARGE-FRUITED MONTHLY RASPBERRY.—This is a new variety, introduced from the Continent a few years ago, by Mr. Rivers. In a description of it, by Mr. R., he says, "This will, I think, entirely supersede all our autumnal raspberries. I have at this moment (October 25) a bed of these raspberries, covered with fruit nearly as large as the Red Antwerp, and on the same plants are green fruit and abundance of blossoms."

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BEET.—This is a variety called Spinach Beet by some, affording an abundant supply of leaves during summer.

ADAMS'S SUPERB WHITE BROCCOLI.—Very excellent. In season early in January.

DANCER'S LATE PINK CAPE BROCCOLI.—This should be inquired for; it is a valuable variety.

NEWINGTON WONDER DWARF KIDNEY BEAN.—This has received a very good character, from competent judges. Height about fifteen to eighteen inches. One of the earliest in cultivation.

FANCY DAHLIAS.

VAST quantities of these are raised on the Continent, and sent over with names sounding most singular to English ears. We will give a specimen.

Gasparine Furstein Reuss (Sieckman).—A very handsome sort, of better form than many others. Colour dark and rich, the end of each petal white.

Lady Grenville (Bragg).—Though in colour like several others, nevertheless a very remarkable sort. Red, with white tips. The form is superior to those which are similar in other respects.

Rowena (Tassart).—Pale salmon, with the tip of the petals white. This is a very neat variety.

Unique (Turner).—This is also a good-formed flower, being a great advance on many others. It is red, with white tips.

Elizabeth (Proctor).—This variety is highly spoken of, being also somewhat novel in colour. Pink, with darker shades on each side the petals.

Jeannette (Fauvel).—A very pretty and well marked variety. The colour, deep lake, with white tips, is peculiarly pleasing. The form also is good. One of the best.

Mademoiselle Basseville (Batteur).—A most decided stripe. The ground colour might be more pure, still it is an attractive sort. The flakes, or markings, are rich marone, on creamy white.

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Reine du Jour (Batteur) is another stripe, far in advance of most others. The crimson stripes are on a yellow or bright buff ground. Form tolerably good.

NEW PLANTS FOR BEDDING, ETC.

VERBENAS still deservedly hold a foremost place. From their lowly habit, compact growth, profusion of bloom, and brilliancy of colour, they are unrivalled for filling small circular beds, cut on turf, with any one colour; and for forming striking contrasts, they are pre-eminently adapted. Amongst novelties in this class, worth inquiring about, are the following. Both our own florists and our continental neighbours vie with each other in their production.

Baucis (Chauviere).—A peculiar shade of very beautiful purple. The flowers are individually large. It also forms a fine truss.

Morphe (Dufoy).—A very pretty variety, of good form, and large. Blue, with a nice contrasting white centre.

Lequay (Chauviere).—A striking variety. The colours are red, tinged with white. Extremely showy and attractive.

Magnificent (Woodcock).—Though there are many of this class out, yet it well deserves its designation. It not only forms large trusses, but also a profusion of them, making a splendid mass of bright pink.

Wonderful (Perry).—One of the finest whites yet raised. We saw it last season in very excellent character, large, fine, and compact.

Favourite (Dufoy).—This is a rich purple, with very fine white eye. A beautiful sort.

Louis Napoleon Bonaparte (Mielliez) is a very fine scarlet, of a rather dark shade, having a distinct white centre.

Pauline (Chauviere).—Light pink, with a large purple centre. A very showy and beautiful sort, forming large heads of flowers.

HARDY SHRUBS AND TREES.

ILEX LEROI.—A continental variety of gold-edged holly, the foliage rather contorted (twisted), but very handsome.

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ILEX FLAMMEA.—A very pretty variety of variegated holly, somewhat in the style of Ilex media picta, but the yellow dash in the centre is larger, and extremely bright; the foliage also is large and good.

JUNIPERUS VIRGINIANA HIPPUROIDES. *(The Mare's Tail-like Cedar.)*—A seedling variety of the Virginian Juniper, which, in its mode of growth, is supposed to be like the common Mare's Tail *(Hippuris vulgaris)*, but we think the resemblance is rather "far-fetched."

TAXODIUM PINNATIFIDUM.—This is a variety of that very beautiful tree the Deciduous Cypress. It is extremely elegant in its growth, and, when cheaper, will be much inquired for.

QUERCUS TARAXIFOLIA. *(The Dandelion-leaved Oak.)*—The foliage of this pretty sort of oak is very remarkable, being cut, or laciniated, in a most singular manner. It will be an acquisition to all who are planting this beautiful family of plants.

HARDY PERENNIAL PLANTS.

JUNCUS CONGLOMERATUS VARIEGATA.—Some people imagine there is nothing particular in a *rush*, and it is a common saying, in order to convey the idea of anything worthless, that "it is not worth a rush," but here they would be widely mistaken. When we were a lad, rushes, dipped in grease, were much used by the cottagers of Hampshire and Sussex, the candlestick being very primitive—nothing more than a cleft stick. The rush we are now noticing, is, however, a variegated one, and very prettily marked with yellow. Those who have situations for water plants, and are making collections, will find even one of this description an acquisition.

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PRIMULA ALTAICA.—A very early-flowering variety of primrose, from the shores of the Bosphorus, different in colour from any we have seen, being deep pink. The stock is in the hands of Mr. C. Turner, of Slough, near Windsor.

THE WHITE WINTER VIOLET.—A seedling, raised by Mr. Shackell, of Bath, which, though not so continuously in flower as the Russian Superb, is, nevertheless, a very interesting sort, well worthy of cultivation.

RANUNCULUS REPENS VARIEGATA.—A very pretty rock plant, the leaves nicely marked with yellow. Though not very new, still it is not seen so often as it ought to be.

What a beautiful thing is the Aquilega glandulosa, bearing seed freely, and yet how rarely it is seen. There is a fresh addition to this splendid family of columbines. It is the AQUILEGA JUCUNDA. Its height is about twelve or fifteen inches, and somewhat of the same character as A. glandulosa. The exterior of the flower is blue, with white centre, and it is very interesting and pretty.

ARNEBIA ECHIOIDES.—A recent introduction from the Caucasian mountains. It is a very pretty perennial, rising about six or eight inches in height. The flowers are yellow, with a purplish spot on the lower part of the petals. It blooms during July and August.

CHERIANTHUS MARSHALLIANUS.—This is a beautiful plant, and will not only be admired as a single specimen, but for bedding purposes is likely to prove a valuable acquisition. The colour of the flowers is rich orange, resembling the well known annual, Erysimum Peroffskianum. They are individually of good shape, and form very pretty heads. It will be a very attractive herbaceous plant.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE BELLE VUE GARDENS,

HYDE-ROAD, MANCHESTER.

THE Manchester Amateur Tulip Society have displayed good taste in selecting these gardens as the place of meeting for the ensuing Great North of England Tulip Show. We visited them with much pleasure, in the spring of 1848, and cannot conceive a place better adapted to such a purpose. As many of our readers take especial interest in the efforts now being put forth to ameliorate the condition of the overcrowded population of our large towns, and to provide them with healthful recreation and enjoyment, we believe they will be much gratified with our insertion of the following description of these gardens, copied from the *Manchester Guardian*, of August 8, 1849:—

"Some thirteen years ago—we believe in the year 1836—the present proprietor, Mr. John Jennison, took thirty-six acres of land, then in open fields, and in a very rough and imperfect state of cultivation. He at once commenced the arduous task of laying it out, and from time to time improving it, planting, building, excavating, and constructing, till at length he has made it a place of public entertainment of a popular kind, on a larger scale than perhaps any other in the kingdom, and certainly in most respects superior in its character and regulations to any that we have seen in the provinces. With some recent additions, the whole extent of ground now occupied includes forty-one acres, of which sixteen or eighteen are tastefully laid out in gardens, including a lake, with its serpentine waters, fountains, &c. with maze, dancing floor, lawns, bowling green, avenues, arbours,

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grottoes, caves, &c. Twenty-one acres form a spacious race-ground, with an equestrian course along its outer portion, three-quarters of a mile in length; and two courses for foot-races, one with iron palisades, of five hundred feet in length, and about six yards wide. Mr. Jennison has also recently purchased a field (about four acres) which separates this race-course from the Longsight station of the Stockport (Manchester and Birmingham) railway, so that he will thus have a right of way direct from the railway to his grounds. Being a distance from the Exchange of two miles and a half, they are thus rendered easily accessible, at an insignificant expenditure of time or money, to the thousands who seek a place of recreation for the half-holiday of Saturday afternoon, or at any other leisure holiday time.

"Near the entrance gate from the Hyde-road there is a fine large weeping ash, its spreading branches covering a space forty feet in diameter, and forming, by its refreshing shade, a natural arbour or verandah to the house. The menagerie occupies various detached buildings, of which one is a glass-domed monkey-house, another a long range of dens and cages, with a spacious paddock attached for the deer. Amongst the more notable of the quadrupeds are the australian dingo or wolf-dog, which much resembles the wolf, and is so destructive to the flocks of sheep in that distant colony; a fine Indian bull, with a hump (held sacred by the Hindoos), the fallow deer, &c. The aviaries contain a great many choice and rare birds, including the white-crested eagle, the Norway eagle, and the American eagle or osprey, the king vulture, various kites and hawks, owls, &c.; herons, various kinds of pheasants, peacocks, numerous macaws, cockatoos, parrots, parrokeets, and a large collection of the smaller birds. We must not omit a tame woodcock. A small show structure, is like an octagonal Gothic temple, lighted with tastefully stained glass windows, and the walls panelled in allegorical paintings; the floor of red and blue

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square tiles, upon which are various grotesque plant stands, &c. Near this—a necessary provision during a shower, or for rest and refreshment—are sixteen arbours, amongst the trees, all slate-roofed, and having a refreshment bar. A spacious bowling green is bounded on one side by five ornamental arbours, decorated internally and externally; and when not used for bowling, this green is occupied by the various round games of the open air, as kissing-rings, &c.

"Perhaps the most striking feature of the gardens, is the lake, which is a large piece of water of irregular form, extending at each end into a broad serpentine stream, so as completely to moat round and insulate the ground within it. This lake is about a quarter of a mile in length, and in the middle about fifty yards wide; it was purposely made shallow, and does not contain more than from three to four feet depth of water. In this lake there are several fountains, and a number of aquatic birds, including no fewer than half-a-dozen swans, several white, and three being that *rara avis in terris* the black swan, a pair of which cost £15. Occasionally these birds, which are natives of Australia, have taken wing, extending their flight over Manchester; but, without alighting, have invariably returned to their own habitation. It has been necessary, however, to clip their wings. They are fed chiefly on grass, mowed and thrown into the lake. There are several varieties of geese and ducks, including the Egyptian geese, most pugnacious birds, which are destructive to ducks and the smaller aquatic fowl. There are on the lake six substantial boats, and water parties form one of the favourite attractions of the place, the shallow depth of the lake preventing any peril beyond that of a ducking. On the margin of the lake are various rockeries and mounds fancifully bordered with shells, &c, A bower, in the Chinese style, with a weeping elm in the centre, is on one side, and rustic chairs and seats are abundantly

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placed in suitable situations around. Passing the pond for aquatic birds, a cave or grotto is entered, and through it is a way to a little circular dell, with a rockery, &c. Serpentine walks, amidst flower borders and ornamental clumps, lead to a rustic arbour, formed of nine trees, of grotesque forms, the centre one being the celebrated Gorton oak, which was struck and reft by lightning. At the foot of each tree is a garden seat. To the left is a rustic bridge, the open parapet of which is composed of large capitals, "TO THE MUSEUM." Crossing this bridge, the visiter is on the island within the lake and its stream, and entering the museum, he finds himself in a quiet, cool apartment, with tiled floor, and an ornamental and refreshing fountain playing in the centre. The walls are lined with glass cases, filled with stuffed specimens of birds, beasts, reptiles, and fishes; and there are also various fossils, minerals, shells, works of art, and natural curiosities, ancient armour and implements of war, Chinese curiosities, &c. There are forty-one glass cases; and not the least curious feature of the museum is the monkeys, who, having gambolled during life in their trees and cages, are doomed after death to figure as instrumental musicians. One is in the attitude of beating a drum; others have violins, clarionets, trombones, violoncellos, &c.; and, grouped together, they have a very odd appearance. On the island (which is not open to visiters), are various ornamental bridges, rockeries, shell arbours, statuary or carvings, paintings, &c.; a Gothic tower and clock, and a cavern which extends from one end of the island to the other. Passing from the museum, we come to a small circular lake for gold and silver fish, in a little islet, which is moated round, and which is reached and quitted by two rustic bridges. A large terraced flower bed, bordered and quaintly ornamented with shells, is near; in its centre a weeping willow, with a great variety of fuchsias, petunias, mimulus, calceolarias, verbenas, &c. We next reach

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the maze or labyrinth, which is modelled on the same plan, and covers more space than the celebrated one at Hampton Court. It surpasses that also in having two octagonal Gothic aviaries in its centre, with glass domes, green slated roofs, &c.; one lighted by stained glass windows, and panelled by mirrors, multiplying indefinitely by their reflections the richly-plumaged birds within; the other embellished with a fine specimen of Chinese needlework, very attractive to female visiters. The large dolphin fountain, at this end of the lake, when in full play, throws a *jet d'eau* thirty feet in height. A square white tower, visible at a great distance, and resembling the tower of a village church, has various important functions in the economy of the place. Beneath it, at a depth of twenty-four yards, is a well of very fine soft pure spring water, which not only supplies the house, &c. but also the various fountains. To raise it, a steam engine has been erected on the ground floor of this square building, which forces it sufficiently to produce the jet already noticed. On the side of this building next the racecourse is a substantial grand stand, capable of holding fifteen hundred persons; and under the stand is a spacious saloon, used for various purposes, amongst others, floral and horticultural shows, assemblages of Sunday scholars, anniversaries of benefit societies, and convivial meetings of friends. On the south side of the grand stand is a long building, thirty-five feet in height, with a flat top, which will accommodate one thousand persons, while its ground floor is a large room or bar, for refreshments, &c. But, ascending from the grand stand to the top of the tower, we find an immense cistern, holding five thousand gallons of water; its top floored over, so as to afford a splendid look-out from what may be termed the roof or summit of the tower—a height of from forty-five to fifty feet from the ground. From this elevated station, a splendid view is obtained, not only of the gardens, with their lake and numerous ornamental buildings, shrubberies, &c. on one side,

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and the racecourse on the other, with the borough gaol, railway, &c. beyond, but also of the country round to a great distance. Indeed, on a clear day, with a good glass, may be seen the new church at Gee Cross, the churches of Marple and Mottram, Alderley Edge, Cloud Cop, and even Leek, in Staffordshire. Opposite the grand stand is a paddock, neatly fenced round, where the horses are saddled, preparatory to each race.

"In the gardens near the new stand, which separates them from the racecourse, is a very large marquee, fifty-two yards in length by seven or eight in breadth, which is now used for large parties of visiters, for Sunday scholars, and for floral and horticultural exhibitions. Near it is what is called the Monster Globe Stand, an elevated orchestral building, surmounted by a huge globe of zinc, painted to represent 'this vast terrestrial ball.'

"Here, during the summer months, 'The Belle Vue Quadrille Band' is stationed, from two in the afternoon till dusk, performing a variety of popular music. A compact smooth flooring or platform of boards has been laid down in front of this orchestra, so as to give an opportunity to parties to enjoy a quadrille, waltz, or country dance *al fresco*, and yet on a smooth floor, which is certainly preferable to the green sward. This platform is to be considerably extended, so as to form as spacious a ball-floor as any in Manchester. Indeed it will, when completed, be larger than that at the Cremorne Gardens, London, and will have a slated roof, with gallery for spectators, &c. Amongst other attractions, there is a fine greenhouse, or conservatory, abutting on the tower and grand stand; and several greenhouses, &c. in the gardens. There is a long strip of enclosed kitchen garden, where lettuce, onions, and the usual ingredients of salads are grown, with broccoli, eschalots, and other vegetables in request at this establishment, fruit, &c. In the hothouse, in this enclosure, we saw a large ripe pine and other fruit.

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"One delightful shady walk is in progress of formation, by training the branches of two rows of weeping ashes over a trellised canopy, carried over the avenue. This, when completed, will be more like the avenue from the church-yard gate to the church porch, at Stratford-on-Avon, than anything we have in this part of the kingdom. A dropping well, with its coral rockery and rock plants, as the liverwort, &c. attracts a passing glance. In short, there is scarcely a spot of ground which has not its appropriate tree, or shrub, or flower border; its bower or arbour, or other place for shade and shelter: and it is easy to see that no part of the thirteen years, during which this ground has been in formation and cultivation, has been an idle time with the projector, or with his staff of gardeners and workmen.

"These gardens are admirably kept; the borders, parterres, &c. are quite trim and neat, and the whole very creditable to the proprietor and his staff, which, considering the extent of the place, is not a large one—consisting of about twenty-five men. We asked Mr. Jennison if there was much plucking of flowers by the visiters. His answer was, that many who would not touch anything else would take a flower, especially a rose; but he had found that flower-plucking prevailed most wherever borders were left in a rough untidy state; and when the visiters saw everything kept with great care and all around trim and neat, they rarely disturbed or touched any of the shrubs or flowers. Generally speaking, he finds the visiters very orderly; and he assured us, that on the Saturday in Whitsuntide, when the gardens contained sixteen thousand persons, all enjoying themselves in dances, games, and sports, there was not the slightest disorder observable.

"The gardens are much frequented by Sunday scholars in their recreation trips. On Monday last, about five thousand scholars came by railway from Macclesfield, and spent the day in these gardens; and for the convenience of such parties, they are

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landed and taken up again at a siding at the Longsight station, so as not to impede the regular railway traffic, and to guard against accidents. To encourage visiters by railway, Mr. Jennison having secured the land between the gardens and the railway station, intends to erect a neat entrance gate and lodge to his grounds, and also to make a good carriage road or drive from the Stockport road; so that Belle Vue will then have good approaches from the railway, and from both the Stockport and the Hyde roads. By railway, it is only a journey of some five minutes from Manchester."

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SOWING AND RAISING FLOWER SEEDS.

It is particularly requisite that seeds should not be sown deep, from whence arise many of the failures of inexperienced gardeners. When sowing in the open ground, scatter thinly on the surface of the soil (except a few of the larger kinds, as lupines, sweet peas, &c.), afterwards passing regularly over them with a rake, pushing them into the earth, performing the operation gently with the finer seeds, which scarcely require to be covered.

Hardy Annuals may be sown in open borders, from the middle of February to the end of April. Several of them, if sown in the autumn, flower fin and early during the next summer, particularly the nemophyllas, gilias, Collinsias, sweet peas, leptosyphons, Clarkias, eutocas, &c.

Half Hardy Annuals sow in March or April, under hand-glasses, or on very moderate hotbeds, and transplant into borders, at the end of April or beginning of May. Most of them may be raised in the open ground, if delayed till April.

Greenhouse and Tender Annuals should be sown in hotbeds, or warm greenhouses, from February

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to April, and afterwards pricked into pots or pans, till of such size as to pot singly. Many of these, when raised early and planted in the open ground, in May or June, will bloom very beautifully during the summer, and produce a continuance of flowers till destroyed by the autumn frosts, particularly the Phlox Drummondii, mesembryanthemums, portulaccas, thunbergias, salpiglossis, &c.

HARDY BIENNIALS AND PERENNIALS may be sown at any time from February to September; many of them may be raised in the open ground and transplanted, but the choice kinds should be sown under glass, in pots or seed pans. Several of them, on account of their slow tendency to vegetate, are more difficult to raise than annuals, and the remarks which follow, respecting watering and shading, will apply particularly to these as well as to greenhouse perennials. Seeds of ranunculus and anemone will require particular care in raising, and are rarely, or perhaps never, found to vegetate, if sown deeper than about the sixteenth of an inch.

GREENHOUSE PERENNIALS are sown from February to September, in seed pans or pots, placed in a greenhouse, or on bottom heat, and will require similar care in other respects to the choice kinds of hardy perennials.

REMARKS ON SOWING SEEDS IN POTS.—Let the pots be well drained, filling them about half way with small broken pieces of potsherds, over which use a light soil, as sand peat, or decayed vegetable or leaf mould (much improved by adding one-sixth of bruised charcoal). The coarsest of the soil place immediately over the drainage, and a thin layer sifted fine on the surface, on which sow the seeds, scarcely covering the smallest kinds. The soil should be dry when used. Water freely, but gently, with a small rose watering pot, when the seeds are sown, and afterwards give moderate waterings, as often as the soil gets dry. Place them either in a greenhouse, under hand-lights, or on a moderate bottom heat, and keep

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them well shaded, which will prevent absorption by the sun's rays, and the consequent necessity of frequent watering, which cakes the soil, and does much mischief to seeds of slow growth. Flat seeds, such as zinnias, stocks, cupheas, didiscus, melons, cucumbers, &c., are best put in edgeways, or rubbed into the soil, being sometimes liable to rot, when sown flat. As the seedlings of slender kinds appear above ground, care must be taken that they are not washed down and lost, when water is applied, particularly calceolaria, portulacca, gloxinia, &c. If bell-glasses are used, they may be watered over the tops of the glasses, that the plants may receive the moisture from the sides, and remain undisturbed; or they may receive it from pans, in which the pots can be placed. As they make progress, they may be pricked out in pots or seed pans, till they gain sufficient strength to plant out singly, being still careful to shade them during sunny weather, till well established, and giving plenty of light at other times.

Bass and Brown's Catalogue.

REVIEWS.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY, HORTICULTURE, FLORICULTURE, AND NATURAL SCIENCE. *Orr & Co.*

A VERY excellent publication, beautiful alike in its illustrations and style of getting up. The plates are, a fine hybrid passion flower, *Passiflora Belottii; Anemone Japonica hybrida,* said to be raised between the Japanese Anemone and Anemone vitifolia; then we have a very beautiful variegated scarlet geranium, called *Pelargonium eximium,* which we should like to possess; and *Calceolaria flexuosa,* a fine yellow-blooming plant, apparently well adapted for bedding. The articles are varied, and accompanied with a pro-

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fusion of wood-cuts. Of course we cannot expect that the publishers will send us the numbers as they come out; but we are so much pleased with the work, that in order to make sure of it, we have ordered it of our bookseilers, and we would advise those of our readers who can afford it to do the same.

BECK'S FLORIST. No. 26. *Chapman & Hall, 186, Strand, London.*

THE papers are, as usual, good. Those on rose insects, herbaceous pæonies, picotees, &c. are much to our mind. The illustration is three very beautiful heaths, seedlings of Mr. Strong's. *Regalis* is certainly very fine. There is also an interesting paper on floral novelties in the northern counties, which we are glad to see. The properties of flowers are so well laid down, and so generally diffused, that really good varieties ought to be known by amateurs, from Landsend to John o'Groats, or they have been but indifferent learners. The only question is, whether they are so likely to know if good flowers raised in their own neighbourhoods are "beats" on existing varieties, for if they are not, they are of little use.

Part III.

QUERIES.

Will you be so kind as to inform me in your next number, whether I can obtain seeds of the erica and of the Irish heath, and whether they would be likely to flourish in Australia? Would cuttings of the geranium, or other plants, be likely to survive, if kept dry so long as four months, on the voyage? Could tulips and other bulbs be taken? Perhaps you would be kind enough to suggest some plants which would be likely to do well in Australia; or it may be that you can supply some.

AN INTENDING EMIGRANT.

Which will be the best way for me to propagate my dahlias? A reply will oblige,

A COTTAGER.

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It will please a constant subscriber, if you, or some of your corresponding friends, will give a list of six of the best roses, for a sitting-room window; also a few of the best fuchsias for exhibition; and a few of the best dahlias that were let out last year.

Will you, at your leisure, be so obliging as to give me a few hints as to the management of a small greenhouse? We have a narrow strip of ground at the back of our dwelling, which we intend to devote to the cultivation of flowers; and about the middle of it, we have a tiny greenhouse, thirteen feet long, by eight feet wide, and nine feet at its greatest height. We have recently removed to our present residence, and find the garden and greenhouse both miserably out of order. There are three vines in the greenhouse, one of which is good for nothing; the others are a Black Hamburgh, and succeed each other very well. We intend removing one, and wish to supply its place with another. It is a very nice thing to have it in our power to pluck our own grapes; but I am particularly desirous of knowing if it be possible to obtain a *constant supply* of pretty flowering plants, for my sitting-room windows. The aspect of my rooms is north-east. I have an unconquerable aversion to any kind of window blind, but as we reside in a town, I am compelled to adopt something, and by dint of occasional purchases, I have generally been tolerably successful. Now I possess a greenhouse, I think I ought to be able to do *great things*. Will you kindly assist me? I must beg to apologize for troubling you with such a long epistle. Your useful publication has aided my husband in the management of a nice plot of ground at some distance from our house, which we use for fruit, and vegetables, on a small scale. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

FANNY.

I have a Greengage tree, which has been planted five or six years, and since the first year has made excellent growth, and been well filled with blossom, but never had any fruit. The situation is near to this place, but the garden has been cultivated for years. I have also a cherry tree, which is in the same state. I should feel particularly obliged, if you would, in the next number of the *Midland Florist*, to which I am a subscriber, inform me as to what course I can pursue with them.

Longton, Potteries. JOHN TURNER.

We have in our neighbourhood, an apple, known by the name of General Washington. It was sent, with five other varieties, from America. It is a free grower, fruits early and abundantly, and is of globular form; when ripe, it is a beautiful yellow orange colour, and keeps well; it is a good baker, of good flavour, and a good market apple. Weight, from four to ten ounces. You will oblige me by stating whether you think the name is correct.

J. G.

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Is it possible to alter the character of a rose or fruit, by budding or grafting on different stocks? I have heard as much. A lady once seriously assured me she had seen roses growing on the crab; but I should wish your evidence on the matter, as I think it impossible. R. STENSON.

I possess a small greenhouse, and have had a deal of trouble through the flues smoking at the joints and the mortar cracking at the top. I should be glad if you could tell me how to remedy these defects, and likewise what would be the expense of a hot water apparatus, and who I could get to fit it up.

A WORKING MAN, AND A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE BEGINNING.

My garden lies low, and my potatoes are generally sad and ill-flavoured. Is there any mode of cultivation which will improve them? I. W.

I have an arbour and trellis that I am anxious to cover with handsome half hardy climbers. Will you advise me, in your next, what six to procure?

Edinburgh. JAMES METTAM.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. B.—Does our correspondent mean Agapanthus umbellatus, bearing a cluster of blue flowers?

W. M.—The Beechwood is one of the best melons in cultivation. Like many other things, there are more names than sorts. We will endeavour to give a paper on their cultivation in our next number.

A Constant Subscriber will see that his request is complied with in the present number.

GOOD APPLES FOR SMALL GARDENS, besides those mentioned for a rood of land.—I. W.—In reply to our correspondent, we can recommend,

The Mannington Pearmain.—A most excellent keeping and table fruit.

Pike's Pearmain has been cultivated a considerable number of years in this neighbourhood, and is generally liked. Its growth is upright, and the fruit is conical, medium-sized, and handsome. It is a good bearer.

Blenheim Orange.—Described in the January number. Our only objection to this fine apple, for small gardens, is its strong and spreading growth. For espaliers, it would, no doubt, answer well.

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The Bess Pool.—This is a most excellent apple, and highly esteemed. The trees grow to an immense size, and we well recollect the produce of seven making seventy pounds in a single year. The apple is inclined to be large, but when of medium size is best flavoured. Deep red next the sun, and inclined to russet. It is one of the best eating and sauce apples we have now (Feb. 18) in Nottingham market. The drawback is, that it is often ten or fifteen years before it begins to bear, though, on the paradise stock, it will begin to produce fruit in four or five years.

The New Bess Pool—This is different from the Bess Pool Improved, described with the apples raised some years ago, by Mr. Stevens, of Stanton. It is a large and beautiful apple, more adapted for baking than the table, makes a handsome tree, and is highly deserving of cultivation.

We might extend this list, but want of space this number prevents us.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR MARCH.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

This is the busiest month for getting vegetable seeds into the ground, and wherever the soil is in a fit state, no opportunity should be lost. Those who have had their ground trenched during the winter, will now find the great benefit of the plan.

Celery seed should be sown on prepared soil. There are many sorts in cultivation, from which choice may be made. Cole's Superb Dwarf Red is highly spoken of, though said to be similar to a variety from France, distributed by the Horticultural Society, some time ago. Then there are some sorts at Leeds, which appear to be known only in that neighbourhood, and which apparently will not find their way from thence in a hurry.

Potatoes for the main crop should be put in about the third week. There is much risk in planting in wet undrained soils. Lime and salt, or soot, is a good thing to sprinkle in the rows. The Flour-ball maintains its superiority in this neighbourhood; Early Strawberry is a very fine sort; and the same may be said of Walker's Engineer, one of the most singular-foliaged varieties we are acquainted with, but as yet scarce.

About the last week, sow *broccoli, Brussels sprouts*, &c. Of *green curled kale* there are several varieties. Of *cauliflower broccoli*, the Dwarf Russian is very excellent, and well adapted

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for small gardens. The Walcheren is first-rate, but difficult to be obtained correct. Chappell's Early White is large and good.

Sow main crops of *peas*. There are so many varieties offered now, that it is a perplexing matter to select the best. We find few better for a general crop, without prickings, or sticks, than the True Scimitar. Thurstone's Reliance is one of the best of the new varieties. Its height is six feet, but it is large, well-flavoured, and wonderfully productive. Fairbeard's Champion of England should be tried by every one who has a garden, and we shall be much mistaken if they do not thank us for recommending it.

Sow *carrots*, on land which has not been freshly manured. We should say they would do well after celery, as the depth the ground is worked for that crop would most assuredly prove highly beneficial to them.

Turnips.—The Red-topped Stone, and Snowball Six Weeks, or Mouse-tail (from the very small and fine root), would now succeed well.

Beans.—The Thick Windsor is a great favourite, but by no means so productive as Johnson's Wonderful, which is really a most excellent sort.

Get in successions of *cress*, *mustard*, *radishes*, &c.

Main Crop of Onions.—Charcoal, soot, &c. are fine manures for this crop. Sow in drills, and keep the surface soil well stirred after the plants are up. An amateur, in this neighbourhood, has raised some blood red onions as large and finely shaped as the Globe.

FRUIT GARDEN.

All pruning ought to have been done by this time. Where amateurs have large worthless sorts of apple trees, it will be advisable to saw off the branches as thick as the *arm*, and cleft-graft them with more prolific varieties, towards the latter end of the month.

Take care that all *raspberries* are trained, by fastening the tips of the canes of two neighbouring plants together, thus forming an arch. A friend of ours, near Nottingham, has put up strong wires, for espalier trees, round the paths of his garden; to these he intends training all sorts of fruits. We can imagine that they will do well for *raspberries*: but we will endeavour to give a description of the plan, with the cost, before long.

Grafting may be performed on various fruits, as soon as the buds begin to swell. A full description of that operation we gave in our first volume.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Sow *ranunculus seed* in well-sifted leaf mould, in pans or boxes. The soil should be pressed down tolerably hard, and

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the seed covered as slightly as possible. The best crop we ever had, we covered the seed, when sown, with green moss, withdrawing it gradually as the seed vegetated. The same plan will apply to all very small seeds. When the soil in the open borders is sufficiently dry, many *hardy annuals* may be sown. Seedsmen are sometimes blamed because these do not come up, when, in fact, they are not likely, from the circumstance of their being covered too deeply. It is a tolerably good guide to place all seeds their own bulk in depth. Thus it must be evident that *mignonette* should not be sown as deep as *sweet peas*. But some people use no discretion in these matters, and if they have a collection of twenty sorts of annuals, varying in size from *lupines* to *Venus's looking glass*, it is ten to one but they will sow them all the same depth.

If *anemones* have not been planted, let them be put in directly; but we prefer the beginning of February, in dry and warm situations.

Ranunculuses ought also to be got in. The same observation applies to them as to *anemones*.

Strike cuttings of *dahlias*, in heat; also *verbenas*, and any other plants for summer decoration.

Auriculas must now be carefully attended to. Top-dress with rich vegetable soil and rotten sheep manure, as soon as possible, and give air whenever practicable. As the stems rise this is particularly requisite, otherwise they will be drawn, and will not support their trusses.

Pot *carnations* and *picotees*. Keep the soil under cover, that it may be used moderately dry.

Cover *tulips* with fine netting, to protect the rising plants from severe cutting winds, which do more harm to the foliage than moderate frosts.

Pansies in pots should have liquid manure occasionally, but it should be very weak.

GREENHOUSE.

Many plants will require repotting; and especial attention must be paid to the attacks of green fly. *Cinerarias* and *calceolarias* are especially subject to them. Fumigate with tobacco, as soon as perceived, for then, no doubt, there are thousands of them, so small as scarcely to be perceptible to the eye, living on the juices of the plants. Look to the young plants of *verbenas*, which have been kept in store pots during the winter. Pot them off singly, in half-pint pots, or even less, that they may get established, and have balls for turning out in May.

The various *mimuluses* are good plants for small greenhouses, for where vines are grown, they will flourish beneath their shade better than most other things. Sow *greenhouse annuals*, and attend to watering and air whenever favourable.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

COPPICEANA.

No. III.

As first-class evergreens, there are few more beautiful things than the

Arbutus, or *Strawberry Tree*, whether we take it with its bunches of flowers, like pendent waxen bells, or when covered with its round red strawberrylike fruit; though so far north as the Coppice it does not commonly produce fruit, but in the south of England we have seen large and handsome specimens, which were perfect pictures. It is raised easily from seed, and very often considerable diversity of foliage is apparent. It does not move well when more than three feet high. The plants are usually kept in pots, to ensure something like certainty of growth, and may be bought for about 9d. or 1s.

There are several varieties. Perhaps the most conspicuous is the

A. Ruber.—Similar in habit to the preceding, except that the flowers are tinged with a beautiful rose colour. It certainly is a most desirable plant, and should be grown wherever the situation is suitable. It is generally propagated by inarching on the common variety (for instructions on this point, see our February number). We have also known it propagated by introducing the shoot of the previous year through the bottom of a pint garden pot, the hole having being made larger to admit the shoot, which is *tongued* or *gashed*. The pot is filled with suitable soil, and when the layer has made roots, it is detached from the parent plant, and removed with the pot to its destination; but we do not like this mode of propagation so well as the former. Plants, eighteen inches high, may be purchased for 1s. 6d. or more, according to size.

A. Heterophylla (The various-leaved Strawberry Tree) is of compact growth, with narrower and shorter leaves. The flowers are white, and produced in great profusion. A very interesting plant indeed. We have not yet propagated it, but 3s. 6d. will not be too much for a plant. It is one of those things which increase in value as they get larger.

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A. Magnifica.—We were fearful that this splendid plant would not bear Nottinghamshire winters, but we have been most agreeably surprised to find that it is at this time (March 2) perfectly uninjured, though in a most exposed situation. The foliage is thick and leathery, of a very dark shining green, broader and more obtuse than most others, with a very slight serrature. It has not yet bloomed with us, but should the flowers at all correspond with the foliage, it will well deserve its name. We hope to inarch from our plant, this spring.

A. Millerii—Originated in the grounds of Mr. Miller, formerly nurseryman, of Bristol. It is of robust habit, with larger leaves than the common variety, bearing large bunches of white flowers, tinged with pink. If possible, this variety is more handsome than A. ruber. It still maintains its price; a fair-sized plant, in a quart pot, being worth from 3s. 6d. to 5s.

Added to these are some dwarf evergreens which have been taken from the arbutuses, and called pernettyas. Now we think that as many people know them best by the old name, we will give it them here, merely observing, that they are closely allied to arbutus, in fact, *first cousins.* There is

Arbutus Mucronata, rising with us, perhaps, two feet high, and forming a beautiful bush. The foliage is very close, small, and pointed. If the hand is pressed on it, the points of the foliage will be found to give some pain. The flowers are formed like those of the arbutus, and succeeded by a smooth round bright pink berry. Plants 1s. each.

A. Siberica.—Trailing on the ground, the foliage roundish, somewhat like the box, and white flowers. A very interesting plant. Worth 1s. each.

A. Cummingii.—This is really a gem. The foliage bright green and narrow, pretty erect habit, the flowers small, like minute wax bells, but produced most abundantly. It would be well adapted for bouquets, or, from the rigidity of the foliage and flowers, for ladies' hair, instead of artificials.

A. (or Pernettya) Tomentosa.—This is a new plant, introduced, we believe, by Mr. Hartweg. We have received it from the Horticultural Society. It appears to be a very distinct dwarf evergreen, and we look forward with much hope of it being a valuable acquisition.

We have now enumerated the varieties of this beautiful evergreen in our possession. There are some others, but as we only profess to describe those trees and shrubs which we have actually in our

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nursery, we shall merely enumerate them, without attempting their description. Arbutus procera (rather tender), A. pilosa, A. andrachne, A. futinifolia.

PICOTEES AND CARNATIONS.

BY MR. JOHN EDWARDS.

THE following remarks and suggestions are given in continuation of my letter in the *Midland Florist*, for February, on the subject of these interesting flowers. I shall not seek to make any vague or obscure observations, but endeavour to plainly state what I think would prove highly beneficial to all parties concerned.

1st. That there be two exhibitions in 1850. The one to be held in or near London, at one of our metropolitan floricultural shows; the other to be held in the north of England, say about one hundred and fifty miles from London, in such town as the growers of the north themselves may select, and on such a date as they the said northern growers themselves may decide.

2nd. That the boundary line I have proposed be the division by which to know the northerns from the southerns. Moreover, to avoid neutrality, every town through which the said line passes, be considered a northern town.

3rd. That there be SIX CLASSES OPEN TO ALL ENGLAND, at *each* of the proposed two exhibitions, viz.:—

CLASS I.—For six blooms of dissimilar varieties of northern-raised carnations.

CLASS II.—For six blooms of dissimilar varieties of northern-raised picotees.

CLASS III.—For six blooms of dissimilar varieties of southern-raised carnations.

CLASS IV.—For six blooms of dissimilar varieties of southern-raised picotees.

CLASS V.—For the premier carnation prize (the best stand in class i. and the best stand in class iii. alone to compete in this class).

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CLASS VI.—For the premier picotee prize (the best stand in class ii. and the best stand in class iv. alone to compete in this class).

4th. That there be a subscription opened in every interested locality, and all sums collected be lodged with a general treasurer, thus forming an ALL ENGLAND CARNATION AND PICOTEE FUND.

5th. That such fund defray the necessary prizes of the exhibitions, and other incidental expenses.

6th. That the prizes offered to the several classes range in the following order (higher or lower, according to the amount collected), viz.:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
CLASS I.—For the best six blooms of dissimilar varieties of northern-raised carnations	2	0	0			
For the second best ditto ditto	1	10	0			
For the third best ditto ditto	1	0	0			
For the fourth best ditto ditto	0	10	0			
				5	0	0
CLASS II.—For the best six blooms of dissimilar varieties of northern-raised picotees	2	0	0			
For the second best ditto ditto	1	10	0			
For the third best ditto ditto	1	0	0			
For the fourth best ditto ditto	0	10	0			
				5	0	0
CLASS III.—For the best six blooms of dissimilar varieties of southern-raised carnations	2	0	0			
For the second best ditto ditto	1	10	0			
For the third best ditto ditto	1	0	0			
For the fourth best ditto ditto	0	10	0			
				5	0	0
CLASS IV.—For the best six blooms of dissimilar varieties of southern-raised picotees	2	0	0			
For the second best ditto ditto	1	10	0			
For the third best ditto ditto	1	0	0			
For the fourth best ditto ditto	0	10	0			
				5	0	0
CLASS V.—Premier carnation prize (the best stand in class i. and the best stand in class iii. alone to compete in this class)				2	10	0
CLASS VI.—Premier picotee prize (the best stand in class ii. and the best stand in class iv. alone to compete in this class)				2	10	0
				25	0	0

And supposing that the above be the schedule of prizes for the SOUTHERN EXHIBITION (which of neces-

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sity must be the first), that an exact counterpart be also binding for the NORTHERN EXHIBITION.

7th. That the flowers be shown on cards, in raised tubes, to fully display the pods.

8th. That uniform stands and cards be provided.

9th. That every northern contributor to the fund give in the name of a gentleman, to act as censor; also every southern contributor to give in the name of a gentleman, also to act as censor. The majority of votes to decide the election of such censors; and that the two so chosen censors have power to call in a third censor, or referee, if they so desire.

10th. That there be no appeal from the censors' award.

Lastly, that such other regulations as may be considered necessary (not being contrary to the spirit of the foregoing) be added to these rules.

And now, gentlemen carnation growers of England, let me here state, that I desire to assume little, and wish to dictate less; nor have I knowingly made any arbitrary suggestion. It is for you to decide, yes or no, in this great cause.

There can be little doubt about readily obtaining an amount sufficient to carry out the schedules after the above form; a sum of fifty pounds pays the prizes, and I know little else except the censors' travelling expenses that could form any item of expenditure, for I take it, that in a truly national affair, such as I wish this to assume, all growers and exhibiters will readily offer their gratuitous services and contribution in each and every floral district.

Wace Cottage, Holloway, Middlesex.

TULIP—THE JERSEY WONDER.

"THE WONDER," in vol. 3, page 167, and "JERSEY WONDER," page 376, one and the same thing. There is a little discrepancy here; but this will be no won-

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derment to the well initiated, who all perfectly know these different moves. For instance, many of Groom's fine flowers possess the same characteristic, star one and feather the other, both equally good; and an experienced eye, having seen these in the two stages once or twice, will most assuredly discover the close affinity of the two sorts.

Now, as regards Fanny Kemble. I have never seen or had the bloom pointed out to me in Mr. Goldham's ground. Many amateurs, with whom I have been in contact, have pronounced the flower so named as unclean. I can only say, in contradiction to this, that two blooms were produced by Mr. G. at a private show (Mr. Middlecot's, Dulwich), three season's since, and both were extremely good, without an iota of deviation—perfect pairs, in fact; and I cannot describe them better, perhaps, than by copying from your report of the Jersey Wonder. Fine cup and of great purity; thick petals; the feathering even, dense, and black. So that if the flower (Fanny Kemble) was originally a stained thing, Mr. G. has certainly introduced it in a clean and rectified state.

Should Mr. Goldham see this, perhaps he will kindly favour the tulip world with a few remarks thereon.

I cannot conclude this, without thanking H. S. M. for his well-executed communication in *Beck's Florist* —the January number and the admirers of the tulip are indebted to him--hoping he will favour them with many more such like valuable productions.

J. DAVIDSON.

ON EXHIBITING TULIPS.

BY AN OLD FANCIER.

I AM one of those who always thought that tulip-showing ought to be placed upon some basis, that the tulip growers in all parts of the country might be

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able to judge upon what merits the flowers shown carry off the prizes. These remarks are called forth by finding, in a work sent to me from the north, that in three pans of six, shown at York, there were two flowers alike—a thing that would not be allowed in the south. (See *Richardson's Florists' Register*, page 20, pans 2, 3, and 6; and page 86, Heroine and Triomphe Royale.) Is it by one being flamed and the other feathered, that they are allowed to pass?

As by a community of ideas we arrive at the most perfect way in all things, I beg to suggest, that it would be better to separate the two. Show six feathered tulips as you would picotees, and six flamed ones as you would carnations, each against its counterpart; the thing would be much more simple and satisfactory. Again, the question of a second class of bizarres, now being mooted, would be done away with—that being a question of colour only. Take, for instance, a pan of six feathered bizarres, with other properties equal. I should think any judge would award the prize to the pan having a black edge, like Polyphemus, and a scarlet edge, like Strong's Queen, in preference to one with all black edges; there being a greater variety of colour, a matter of the greatest importance in arranging a good tulip bed. The same thing applies to the byblœmeus, from the black of Louis XVI. to the beautiful lilac of Holmes's King. So with roses, from the deep Morella cherry of Franklin's Lord Brougham to the delicate rose. The rule that regulates the pan of feathered flowers is equally applicable to the flamed ones.

On the Use of Pigeon Dung.—Having tried with great success a liquid manure of pigeon dung, for the geranium, cactus, cineraria, &c. I give the proportions for making it, as the result of repeated trial and experiment. To a quart of dung *half dried*, and measured with *exactness*, I use twenty-four

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quarts of water, stirring them well together when mixed, and once afterwards. It is ready for use next day, and the plants may have it twice a week. Since trying it for my own plants, their luxuriant growth has fully equalled that of any others I have seen, not excepting cottage window geraniums, often noticed as flourishing beyond their greenhouse neighbours. Perhaps it may be of use to add, as a caution, that I tried eighteen quarts of water, and found that proportion too little, the leaves being affected by it soon afterwards.—I noticed lately, some remarks on the dandelion, by Mr. Forsyth, and was glad to gain a useful hint; but can assure him, that *cows will not refuse* this plant, but eat it eagerly whenever they can get it, and our farmers all agree in the correctness of my statement.—S.

Part III.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

PETUNIAS are very showy, either for greenhouse or bedding out. They also make good window plants, trained to neat trellises. The following, raised by Messrs. Bass & Brown, of Sudbury, are new and very desirable varieties:—

Cassandra.—French white, with veined throat, the margin of the flowers distinctly blotched with bright rose colour.
Magnificent.—Splendid crimson, with dark veins. Well adapted for bedding out.
Syren.—Pure white, with distinct bright pink throat. Of excellent shape, very delicate, and beautiful.
Castor.—Large lilac, with rich purple centre.
Orion.—Excellent form. Deep pink.
Pollux.—Blush, with rich purple throat.

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FUCHSIAS.

Diana (Gregory).—A large and white flower, the corolla fine attractive scarlet.

Yorkshire Eclipse (Gregory).—This has a shaded purple corolla, with the exterior pale blush. A striking variety.

Gem of the West (Hebens).—One of the best whites. The tube is long and pure white, the corolla violet purple.

Sir Charles Napier (Tiley).—A very fine and beautiful dark variety. Tube rich dark crimson, corolla deep violet.

GERANIUMS.

Flamingo (Hoyle),—Bright scarlet, darkly blotched upper petals, the centre white, beautifully contrasting with the brilliant colours of the other part of the flower.

Odorata Variegata.—As its name implies, with variegated foliage, beautiful alike for pot or bed culture, for which latter purpose its dwarf habit renders it particularly desirable.

Promethus (Hoyle).—Another brilliant flower, as are most varieties raised by Mr. Hoyle. It is a most striking sort. Bright red, with dark spot; centre white.

EPIPHYLLUM MAXIMUM.—We recollect, some twelve years ago, being at Worcester, and visiting the nurseries of Mr. R. Smith, at which period he had an immense quantity of seedling cactusses. He is now selling a variety by the name of Cactus or Epiphyllum maximum. It is originated from C. speciosissimus and C. Ackermanii major, being much larger than the latter flower, and tinged with beautiful purple, in the way of the former. When in full bloom, the flowers are at least ten inches across.

HARDY PERENNIAL OR HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

CALANDRIA UMBELLATA.—A very handsome thing, but at present scarce. It is well adapted for single specimens, or for bedding, the habit is compact, and flowers somewhat similar in colour to Sisyrinchium grandiflorum, a beautiful crimson purple.

MYOSOTIS AZORICA.—This also will be generally admired. It flowers very profusely, is low in growth, and the blossoms are deep pink.

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ŒTHIONEMA MEMBRANACEUM.—Continues in bloom a long time. The flowers are bright pink. Very pretty.

VEGETABLES.

NEW varieties, or old ones with *new names*, are constantly appearing. The Willcove we have before recommended as a most excellent variety of cauliflower broccoli. Then there is Hammond's White Cape, Miller's Dwarf, and Snow's Superb White Winter, all worthy of a trial.

As for cucumbers, their name is legion. We have had many inquiries for Cheltenham Surprise, but all we can do is to state that such a variety is very *prolific and good*. We think we ought not, in justice to those who do advertise with us, to state also where it can be procured; and it must be borne in mind that we do not solicit advertisements. Mills's Champion will reach from two feet and a half to a yard in length, which we trust will satisfy the most sanguine grower in existence.

Then as for melons, Bromham Hall Green-fleshed is said by one party to the be "finest flavoured in the world;" whilst Danesbury Park Melon is recommended as "the best grown."

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

ON POTTING AND SHIFTING PLANTS.

[*From the Gardener's Chronicle.*]

MUCH, if not the greater part of the success in cultivating plants, in pots, depends upon a proper method of potting and shifting them, and this as

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much in the state of the materials employed, as in the manner of employing them. But in vain may soil, situation, and treatment, be consonant to their natures, if care and attention have not been paramount in this branch of their treatment. When plants are in their borders, they are in a great measure attended to by nature herself. But when we place them in pots, we give them an artificial habitation, and they then require of us artificial treatment to reconcile them to an abode foreign to their natures.

First, the soil will, of course, be a composition suitable to the particular plant or plants to be potted; but of whatever it may be composed, particular care should be taken that it is not too wet, nor too dry. If the former, it becomes, during the process of potting, a compact mass, which, contracting as it gets drier, leaves a vacuum between the exterior of the pot and the ball of the plant, thus allowing the free admission of light and air, which is, of course, anything but beneficial to the plant. If, on the other hand, it be too dry, it prevents, for a considerable time, the free passage of moisture to the roots, and it will often be found, especially if the plant itself is dry at the time of potting, that it will suffer greatly ere it receive sufficient moisture to recruit the evaporation of its juices. Secondly, the pots, if not new ones, should be scrupulously clean; for if the advantage were nothing more than the facility obtained in turning out the plant to examine or re-shift it, it would amply repay the trouble. But independent of this, a plant enjoys better health in a clean than in a dirty pot, and if no other consideration would urge to cleanliness, appearance would decide in its favour. Thirdly, drainage should combine two properties,—to allow free exit to the superabundant moisture, and to prevent the entrance of worms: and although the latter object is somewhat difficult of attainment, we should seldom have to complain if plants, when placed in situations where worms are likely to abound, were set upon a sufficiently thick layer of cinder-

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ashes, or some similar material; cinder ashes, I think, claiming the preference, as we seldom see worms attempt to penetrate them, if two inches in thickness. To allow a free passage to the superabundant moisture, let the crock covering the drain-hole be placed so as to form an arch, with a few smaller ones placed round it, covering the whole with a slight quantity of moss, sufficient to prevent the finer particles of soil being washed round the larger crock, which would effectually obstruct the drainage, when the soil would become sour and unhealthy, and, as a natural consequence, the plant would follow its example. Fourthly, the depth of potting should be regulated by the mark which nature points out, and which is always conspicuous in plants raised from seed; at all events, let it not be placed deeper than when it receives its first remove from the cutting, or seed-pod. To bury an inch or two of the stem of a plant is very injurious, although a practice of common occurrence with careless potting. Fifthly, in leaving a sufficient space in the pots to receive water, let it on no account form a kind of basin, that is, a hollow, round the stem, but let the soil round the stem be as high as the rim of the pot, receding gradually to a depth round the rim, agreeably to the size of the pot, the nature of the plant, or the situation in which it is to be placed.

I feel confident if these few simple rules were followed, many plants which we now see dying, or at best barely vegetating, would be *vice versa*.

TYRO.

ON THE CULTURE OF VERBENAS FOR EXHIBITION.

[BY MR. BARNES, STOWMARKET.

It is first absolutely necessary that the the plants intended to produce good trusses for exhibition, should be perfectly healthy. In order to obtain plants of

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this description, I select my cuttings in March or April; these are struck in gentle heat, potted off into three-inch pots when rooted, and gradually inured to the climate of a cold pit. At this time they receive their final shift into seven-inch pots, which should be kept as near the glass as convenient, and frequently well watered over head. When the plants have been repotted a week or two, they should have the leading shoot pinched out, which causes them to push freely. From plants thus treated I select three or four of the best shoots, depending on the habit of the plants, as some will carry four, better than others will carry three; these, whether three or four, should be left equidistant. The heads of bloom soon appear on these new shoots; but if no exhibition is at hand, the crowns may again be pinched out, the shoots thinned as before, only permitting the three or four shoots to perfect themselves, and never allowing more than these to bloom on one plant at a time. By this plan I have always the same number of shoots in free growth, and the plants very little taller at the end of three months, than they were in the first month.

To cure mildew on the foliage, make a weak solution of turpentine, with which water them overhead, in the evening. The best soil, or compost for their cultivation is equal parts peat, loam, leaf-mould, and charcoal, and of guano a small portion. The guano well pounded, the others rough as possible.

Magazine of Botany.

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR APRIL.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

THIS is perhaps the most exciting time of the year for the amateur pansy-grower. Buds of some novelty, or popular old favourites, will be fast maturing; and those who intend to exhibit will be much interested in

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the development of those plants they have watched and nursed for months past. It cannot be denied but that early blooms of well-grown pansies are extremely charming; their rich velvety appearance and freshness of colour make them peculiarly attractive.

Those in pots will now require to be gone over frequently with the water-pot; but care is necessary not to give much water to plants of slow growth, the constitution of some varieties being very different to that of others, and requiring judgment in this respect.

Look over the beds of the autumn-planted seedlings, as many will have been loosened by the frost, and will require pressing down. If our readers are enthusiastic growers, they will not object to follow our recommendation, and will carefully hunt by candle-light for slugs, if they are troubled with that pest. How many, on visiting their pansies in the freshness of an April morning, have found their beds and flowers disfigured for want of this precaution.

SCHOOL GARDENS.

As I have seen in the *Midland Florist*, one or two favourable notices of the school gardens at Nottingham, I have ventured to send you an account of a society for the purpose of encouraging a taste for gardening, which has been established in connexion with a Sunday school at Gee Cross, a village in Cheshire, about four miles from Stockport, and one mile from Hyde. It was, in fact, your notice of the Nottingham gardens which led to the formation of this society. A few young men, who have a taste for gardening, have formed the idea of establishing similar gardens here. We have not, however, the same advantages as the Nottingham people. We have no public gardens, and very few of the cottagers have private ones. Under these circumstances, we could only encourage the growth of *window plants:*

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and for this purpose, the society was established. We venture, however, to hope, that if we succeed in creating a taste for gardening, in the neighbourhood, we may, in the course of a year or two, have gardens like those at Nottingham. At present, we have every reason to be satisfied with the prospects of our humble undertaking. Every third window in the village is well stocked with plants—not all of them, it must be confessed, in a very high state of cultivation, but showing that care has been bestowed upon them. A few friends in the neighbourhood, who have greenhouses, have very kindly given a number of plants to the members of the society.

If you would give us a hint or two, as to the management of the society, on the cover of the *Midland Florist*, we should be very grateful for them, for we have had no experience whatever in the management of such things. We only hope that you will not criticise us *too severely*, for our *object*, we are convinced, is good, however imperfect may be the means we have adopted for attaining it.

If you think that a notice of our society would be of any service, you are at liberty to make what use you like of this communication, provided that you do not mention *names*. If you favour us with any remarks in the *Midland Florist*, you can put my initials before them.

J. H. B.

The following have been published by the society:

DIRECTIONS FOR GROWING WINDOW PLANTS.

Give a free supply of air every day, except in very frosty weather.

Water your plants as they require it; which will be about once a day in summer, but in winter much less frequently. In summer the evening is the best time for watering, in winter the morning.

Never let your pots stand in water. It is a good plan to fill the saucers about two-thirds full of small pebbles, or coarse gravel, on which to place the pots.

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Keep your plants near the glass, and in a window where they will receive the direct rays of the sun.

Do not turn your plants often, or the stems will become weak and sickly.

Put your plants out of doors occasionally, when it rains; and water them overhead at least once a week. Keep the leaves perfectly free from *dirt*.

Allow all your plants a season of rest in winter, by giving them very little water, and keeping them in a cool place; taking care, however, to protect them from frost. Those which are required for flowering very early in spring, may be kept growing in winter.

Always use rain water for watering your plants, and let it stand in the same room with them an hour or two before using it.

Keep your plants free from insects; tobacco smoke destroys the green fly instantly.

Keep the outsides of your pots as clean as possible, and never paint them. The common earthenware pots are the best. Stir the soil at the tops of the pots occasionally, and train the plants as they grow. Remove dead leaves and flowers as they appear.

Geraniums, petunias, verbenas, and some other plants, are apt to become straggling in their growth. To prevent this, pinch off the ends of the shoots occasionally, which will induce them to throw out side branches.

Repot when necessary, taking care that the new pots are quite *clean* and *dry*. Put a handful of broken earthenware, in small pieces, at the bottom of each pot, and above it a layer of moss, or rough turfy mould to ensure drainage. If the roots are matted together, loosen them before repotting.

When your plants become too large, raise young ones from cuttings, taking care to cut them off just below a joint. Remove a few of the lower leaves, and plant the cuttings in sandy soil; they will soon strike root in the spring and summer months.

If you can conveniently do so, let plants which flower in winter and spring, stand out of doors during the summer months.

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A soil suitable for most window plants, is one composed of three parts light fibrous turfy soil, from the surface of a pasture, and one part thoroughly rotten stable dung, with river or brook sand in sufficient quantity to allow of water passing freely through the soil. If peat can be obtained, a quantity of it can be added equal to the proportion of dung recommended to be employed. This soil should lie in a heap some time before it is used, and should not be crumbled too fine. A few lumps of charcoal mixed with the soil prove very beneficial to most plants.

A FEW
PLANTS SUITABLE FOR WINDOW CULTURE.

SPRING.—Crocuses, hyacinths, cinerarias, the musk plant, Acacia armata, Calla Æthiopica (Arum), Cytisus racemosus.

SUMMER.—China roses, calceolarias, cactuses, geraniums, maurandyas (climbers), balsams, hydrangea, Cuphea platycentra, Agapanthus umbellatus.

AUTUMN.—Petunias, fuchsias, lobelias, verbenas, Tropæolum pentaphyllum (climber), Rhodochiton volubile (climber), Campanula pyramidalis.

WINTER.—Chrysanthemums, Chinese primroses, cinerarias, heliotrope, myrtle.

THE CULTIVATION OF MELONS IN OPEN FRAMES.

BY JOHN WILLIAMS, ESQ.

NOTHING can be more simple than the construction of my glass covering. I sink a shallow pit, about nine inches or one foot deep in the ground. A strong wood frame is made the size of the intended bed, to support the glass. My frame is eighteen feet long, by eight feet three inches wide; each light is divided into two parts, the upper being the shortest. By this division the lights receive less injury in being removed, and as wood props soon decay in the ground, I

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procured some small cast-iron pipes, two inches in diameter, from our gas-works, and by cutting the pipes a little above the moulding, this circular projection affords a secure shouldering for the wood frame to rest upon. The lower end of the pipe goes into the ground, and is secured in its place by a few small stones rammed round it, in the way of paving a street. Four long pipes support the upper, or north side of the frame, and four short ones the lower, or south side. The lower side of the pit is filled with a mixture of old leaves, the winter prunings of raspberry plants, and other twigs from wall-trees, or shrubs, which every garden affords in the spring; to these add a little horse-litter, and the first mowings of grass lawns, dusting in a little lime, in powder, which hastens decomposition, kills insects, and keeps up a durable bottom heat for some weeks. I find in the autumn, the melon roots go through the whole, down to the bottom of the pit, and when removed in the winter, it affords an excellent compost for the garden. The melon plants are raised in small pots, each plant being in a separate pot, the seed being sown in March, or beginning of April; this will give time for each plant to be stopped twice in the seed-pot, and they will then afford female flowers from the lateral shoots very soon after they are planted at the end of May. I usually, when first the plants are turned out of the seed-pots, simply cover them with hand-glasses—say the first fortnight, each glass being furnished with a night-cap of matting, to prevent the radiation of its accumulated interior heat in clear nights. The glasses, of course, are raised on one side every sunny day, to harden the plants as much as possible, and at the same time their use saves the trouble of moving and endangering the breaking of the frames. The bottom compost is covered with about nine or ten inches of soil, and this soil with slates, the principal runners being carefully spread and pegged down, that each leaf may receive its due portion of light. The glass, when the bed is settled

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down, should be from sixteen to eighteen inches above the slates, so as to give room for the leaves to expand, and receive motion from the wind, and the exhaling moisture to be carried away. As the bottom heat declines, I keep a supply of grass mowings, fallen leaves, and other garden refuse, as a lining, on the north side. Green glass is much to be preferred to crown glass, the leaves are less liable to be burnt in spots by the sudden exposure to light in showery weather. The plants require no water at root after they have first got rooted in the bed, nor any syringing with water on the surface of the leaves. I found the latter did injury. One single dusting of flowers of sulphur thrown amongst the leaves in a calm morning or evening, by means of the newly-invented portable fan-engine, I found, last summer, effectually kept off the red spider and thrips. Every gardener who saw the plants growing expressed surprise at their healthy appearance, and their abundance of fruit.

Should this mode of cultivating melons be adopted, I have no doubt of it succeeding, and from a trial I have made with a large plant of the Ispahan melon, last summer, I have reason to think that this and all the Persian varieties, except those which are liable to crack, can be matured by the end of August, or beginning of September, and afford a supply till the middle of October, of very superior quality to any raised in close frames.

Loudon's Magazine of Gardening.

COLE'S SUPERB DWARF RED CELERY.

This splendid celery was raised by Mr. W. Cole, gardener to H. Colyer, Esq., of Dartford, Kent, and is the result of saving seed for a series of years from selected plants, always making choice of those which, in addition to being solid and fine flavoured, were of

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dwarf, compact, and very robust habit. The plant from which this stock of seed was saved was raised several years back, and subsequent experience having proved it to possess first-rate qualities, it is now submitted to the public with the conviction that it will be found superior to any variety in cultivation, and, if properly treated, will give entire satisfaction to every purchaser.

Specimens of this celery (six sticks weighing 39lbs.) were exhibited before the Horticultural Society of London, on the 5th December, 1848, when a prize was awarded to Mr. Cole for its production. The following remarks are abridged from a communication read before the society, explanatory of his system of management:—

"The specimens sent are not selected, but are merely examples of a general crop, planted without any object in view beyond that of supplying my employer's table. My stock consists of 600 plants, planted in rows four feet apart, and the plants nine inches apart in the rows, and I have not a doubt that the whole crop would average 6lbs. per stick. Not the least remarkable excellence of this celery is, that it will stand twelve months without running to seed. The seed was sown in the first week of February, in a gentle heat, and, when the plants were large enough, they were pricked out in garden soil rich in vegetable matter, under hand-glasses. The trenches were prepared in the usual manner, the first week in June, by excavating them nine inches deep, and digging-in a good dressing of the spent dung of an old mushroom bed. The plants were of course strong at the time of planting out, and each was removed to the trench with a good ball of earth adhering to the roots, so that, receiving a good watering, they sustained little or no check. In earthing celery, it is best to steer between the two evils of frequently earthing, and not earthing until the plants are full grown, as a little earth after the plants are fully established in the

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trenches, say a month after planting, promotes the rapid growth of the plants, more especially if they receive a good soaking of liquid manure or soot-water, a day or two before they are earthed.

"Soot-water is an excellent manure for celery, and where worms or other insects are troublesome a little soot dusted over the plants, at the time of earthing, will be found a preventive of their ravages.

"It is almost impossible to give celery too much water during the growing season, but it is better to give a thorough soaking once a fortnight than daily dribblings, which, in my opinion, are worse than useless.

"Were I so disposed, I have no doubt I could grow this celery double the size of that sent, and to effect this, I should prepare the plants as before directed, excavate the trenches eighteen inches deep, and the same in width, and fill them with a compost consisting of decomposed turfy-loam, peat, leaf-mould, and thoroughly decomposed cow-dung, in equal quantities; very rich dung is not good for celery, and strong manure water should also be avoided. To grow large celery, it would be necessary to place the plants eighteen inches apart in the row, and the ground should be kept constantly moved about the plants, taking great care, however, to prevent the earth falling into the hearts of the plants, during the operation.

"For a very early crop of celery, I sow early in January, and prick the plants out upon a slight hotbed; for a second crop, in February, in heat, as before directed; and, for a late crop, in March, in the open garden."

To the preceding it is not necessary for me to add any remark, further than to say that I saw Mr. Cole's crop in November, and can, with the greatest confidence, pronounce it the finest I have ever seen, and I feel quite certain of its being generally esteemed.

WM. P. AYRES.

Brookland's Nursery, Blackheath.

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ON FORCING MUSHROOMS.

BY I. WIGHTON.

In the gardens of the wealthy, there are houses heated by flues, for the growth of mushrooms, but this can be accomplished in any dry shed or cellar where the temperature does not fall below forty-five degrees, nor rise above seventy degrees Fahrenheit. Various kinds of materials are recommended for making mushroom beds; but the best is fresh manure from horses that are highly fed, mixed with light soil in a small quantity.

How to make the Bed.—Take a quantity of the manure, and spread it so as to lie about four inches deep, beat it firmly down with a mallet; after a few days, repeat the same, and again at intervals, till the bed becomes about fourteen inches deep. To ascertain the degree of heat, put two or three sharp-pointed sticks into the bed, and when, on being drawn out, they feel about new-milk warm, it is time to put in the mushroom spawn, but the heat must be rather on the decline than otherwise.

How to use the Mushroom Spawn.—Break the spawn into pieces about the size of a hen's egg, place them about the bed about one foot apart, and two inches below the surface, and beat the whole down hard. Be careful not to let the heat increase above the degree mentioned above, otherwise the spawn will be destroyed, and the bed must be stocked again with fresh spawn. Indeed, for security's sake, it is always best to repeat this when the heat is on the decline. After all danger of increased heat is past, cover the bed with light soil, about two inches deep, and beat it down hard. Mushrooms always do best in a firm hard soil; however hard, they will find their way through it; they have even been known to raise the pavement of a cellar floor.

Management of the Bed.—Examine the sticks that were originally placed in the bed; if they are lukewarm, all is right. A few days afterwards, cover

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the bed with hay, or straw, but if it increase in heat, remove it for a time. If the place is warm and dark, the covering may be dispensed with. In five or six weeks, the mushrooms ought to appear. A gentle watering now and then hastens their growth, but too much will cause the spawn to rot, and then, of course, the bed will be unproductive, whereas, it ought to produce for five or six weeks. The covering keeps the soil moist, especially when much exposed to the air. These observations may appear at variance with the fact, that mushrooms spring up in the fields in showery weather, but there is a difference between spawn in a bed of manure, which retains moisture, and spawn in the open soil.

It is doubtful in what mushroom spawn originates; I do not mean such as we employ in mushroom beds, for this appears to be merely the roots of mushrooms, resembling firm white threads, with small knots. It is the common notion that this spawn proceeds from animal deposits; but mushrooms, like most perfect plants, do in reality produce seed. This is said to be ascertained by placing a sheet of white paper under a full-grown mushroom, and the seed will fall upon it from the gills, like fine dust. This seed is carried about by the wind, and eaten by animals in their food. Some may be unwilling to believe this, because the manure from horses fed on grass, where mushrooms abound, does not produce mushrooms equal to that from horses fed on hay or corn. To this I reply, that the greater fermentation in the stomachs of horses eating green food is more likely to destroy the mushroom seed. The same may be said of beds made of their manure, which often destroys the spawn. What is here advanced is no way contradicted by the fact of mushrooms springing from decayed vegetables, for the seed may easily have been mixed with them, and the growth accelerated by the slight fermentation which produced the decay of the vegetables. Some imagine that animal manure will produce mushrooms independently of any admixture

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of their seed, but this is as unreasonable as to believe that soil will produce weeds without seed, or that putrid matter will engender maggots without eggs having been previously therein deposited.

To the experienced mushroom-grower I have here mentioned nothing new; but to the inexperienced, something which may be of use to him.

Loudon's Magazine of Gardening.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF VINES IN GREENHOUSES.

BY MR. JAMES HUTCHISON.

[Continued from page 21.]

TEMPERATURE OF THE BORDER.

In No. 112 of *Loudon's Gardeners' Magazine*, I have directed the vine border to be covered, a fortnight previous to the commencement of forcing, with horse dung of the best quality, to the depth of ten or twelve inches. I would still recommend the same method, or something similar, in every case in which the border has been uncovered, or insufficiently covered, during the winter. But as the successful cultivation of all plants, especially exotics, depends so much on terrestrial climate, I now prefer to have the border covered in the autumn, so as to prevent the escape of the heat contained in it at that season. It fortunately happens that I have sound data to proceed upon in giving directions in this matter. The following returns are taken from Thompson's Tables of Ground Temperature at Chiswick, which will apply, with little variation, to the greater part of Britain and Ireland:—

	One Foot deep.	Two Feet deep.
August	62·37	61·95
September	58·35	59·04
October	53·38	53·74
November	46·79	48·09

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I would advise, therefore, that the border should be covered with a light covering of dry leaves, about the end of September, for the temperature of the border will fall considerably in October, as will be seen from the above table. A covering of waterproof canvass should also be applied, to carry off heavy rains. As soon as a sufficient quantity of leaves can be collected, they should be laid on about eighteen inches thick. Where leaves cannot be had, sufficiently long dung, or fern leaves might be used instead. But whatever material is applied, it must not be forgotten that protection from the rain is indispensable, or the heat of the border will be exceedingly variable.

The covering should be removed about the middle of May, when the border should be forked over. It should be frequently stirred with the Dutch hoe during summer, but especially after heavy rains. If the border is managed in this manner, it will seldom require any watering, if situated in the western parts of Britain or Ireland. In the eastern parts of this island, the watering of the border should be attended to when necessary, but especially at the commencement of the last swelling of the grapes. The water should have been warmed by exposure to the air.

[To be continued.]

Journal of the Horticultural Society.

To KILL THE GOOSEBERRY CATERPILLAR.—It is said that the gooseberry caterpillar can only be killed by an infusion of foxglove. I have been very much troubled with it here, and have found the powder of white hellebore, which is more easily got, to be quite sufficient. The caterpillars are on the under side of the leaf, and one man holds up the branches while another dusts the powder on them from below. If perfectly dry, it spreads in a cloud of dust, and misses none, when well directed, and none it touches will live, if the hellebore be fresh and good. When

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it gets damp, or is too long kept, it loses its pungency and efficiency, and I have seen frequent disappointments from this cause. If only partially damped, it may be recovered, by toasting it before the fire, in a flat dish. Some prefer to infuse it, but I have always found most benefit from the dry powder, if carefully dusted on the caterpillar from below. The caterpillar may be seen to collapse, when the powder touches it, and in a few hours there will be nothing but skin.—*Loudon's Magazine of Gardening.*

SUSSEX.—We are somewhat famous for fine fruits in this neighbourhood, and have been trying the experiment of fixing small pieces of wood to the wall, as a support for the fruit to rest upon, a practice very unusual. If you, or any of your correspondents, could inform us whether it is likely to increase the size of the fruit, we shall be obliged. We are of opinion that it does. The same experiment was tried on a dwarf apple (Shepherd's Seedling), in the border, and we gathered fruit that weighed twenty-two ounces and measured fifteen inches in circumference.

FANCY PELARGONIUMS, OR GERANIUMS.—In the *Magazine of Botany*, the following compost is recommended for these plants:—Two barrows of good turfy loam, one of leaf mould, and one of well decomposed cow dung, with a good portion of silver sand. Drain the pots well, and mix charcoal, in moderate-sized pieces, in the soil. After a summer's free growth, it is needful, about the beginning of July, to diminish the quantity of water previously necessary, so that the wood may be thoroughly hardened before cutting down. Some of the varieties do not require cutting down at all, as I find Anais, Ibrahim Pacha, and some others of the more slender-growing kinds, do best by pulling out the flower buds in the autumn, leaving them to grow on. By the end of July, the plants will require to be shaken clean out of the soil, and to have the roots pruned a

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little at the points, previous to repotting. The following are some of the most handsome sorts in cultivation:—Ambrose's Beauty, Fairy Queen, Formosa, Jenny Lind, Magnifica, and Minerva, Gains's Hero of Surrey and Ne plus ultra.

Part III.

REVIEW.

The Schedules of the Northamptonshire Floral and Horticultural Society.

The first feature in the schedule we are much gratified with, namely, the nurseryman's class, in which the decisions are given according to merit, but no money prizes are awarded. We think, at amateurs' exhibitions, dealers would consult their own interests by not *sponging* on the funds which ought to be appropriated to their customers. We should imagine, that the sale of their plants, and bringing them thus prominently before the public, would be remuneration enough; besides, we know where several nurserymen of small means will not exhibit against an extensive one in the same neighbourhood, because his collection takes *the greater part of the money.*

We are also glad to see that Mr. F. Perkins gives a guinea for the best twelve varieties of British wild plants, to be correctly named, and the place where to be found growing (habitat) described. This pamphlet, containing lists of prizes for three shows, members' names, rules, receipts and disbursements of the society, including subscriber's admission ticket, can be sent by post for twopence, so that much time is saved. We consider it a very great improvement, and societies would do well to profit by the example of the Northamptonshire Floral and Horticultural Society.

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QUERIES.

A list of twelve best hollyhocks, with their colours, in your next number, will greatly oblige yours, HENRY JONES.

I grow about six sorts of perennial larkspurs, and wish to increase them. What is the best way of propagation? Will Delphineum Barlowii or grandiflora bear seed? I often get some very pretty varieties from D. Chinensis, but they only last with me a few years. Will you let me know, in a short article, how I may succeed in their cultivation?

Cirencester. JANE B.

Will polyanthuses and primroses cross? If so, will there be any advantage gained by hybridizing? HORTULANUS.

Have you ever, in the course of your experience, met with a hybridized currant? Will black and white cross with red? or will gooseberries do so? A reply to this and the above, in your next number, will greatly oblige yours, HORTULANUS.

I have planted an orchard this spring, and, amongst other trees, have put in two walnuts. Now have they been grafted, or if seedlings, must I expect good fruit? WM. ROBINSON.

I am anxious to grow yellow picotees, which I have frequently seen noticed in the *Midland Florist*. Is there any difficulty in their cultivation? and which are the best sorts? A reply will oblige, FRANCES.

In your answers to correspondents, in the number for July, 1949, "Dera" publishes two receipts for indelible ink, for writing on zinc labels, of which he says, "the second is the most intense, and it is the best ink, there being no sediment." The receipt is as follows:—"No. 2. Rain water 3 oz., chloride of platinum 15 or 20 drops, according to the intensity required." I had it made up by a chemist in Oxford, the same strength as above; but finding it quite useless, I tried between forty and fifty drops of the chloride of platinum in the three ounces of water, intending to increase the intensity. I find this perfectly useless also. Perhaps Dera, or some other correspondent, can explain the reason why the ink made literally according to the before-mentioned direction should not answer the purpose with me as well as them. I think, as it is rather expensive (the quantity I have had having cost me five shillings), it ought to be explained, to prevent others from being thus disappointed.

Your obedient servant, H. M. Y.

Oxford. A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST NUMBER.

I should be obliged by your letting me know, through the medium of your valuable little work, the *Midland Florist*, the best aspect for auriculas, during the summer, after they are out

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of blossom; and also by stating the properties of a good auricula.

Waterford. W. I. HODGES.

You will oblige a subscriber to the *Midland Florist* from its commencement by giving in your next number, a list of six or more of the newest and most showy hardy, half hardy, and tender annuals. H. W.

[Several of the new annuals are far from handsome. We give the following, in reply to the above query:—

HARDY ANNUALS.—Viscaria occulata, Sedum cœruleum, Nemophylla macculata and speciosa, Godetia Lettmannii, and Calliopsis nigra speciosa.

HALF HARDY ANNUALS.—Ipomea Burridgii, Phlox Drummondii occulata and Leopoldii, Mesembryanthemum tricolor, Salphiglossis sulphurea, and Clintonia pulchella.

TENDER ANNUALS.—Impatiens glanduligera, Portulacca splendens and Gillesii, Martynia proboscydea, Amaranthus gigantea and bicolor.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN INTENDING EMIGRANT.—A friend of ours, who has been to Australia, replies, that the Irish heath would, no doubt, flourish in that country. Small plants of geraniums would go safely in a *Wardian* or glazed case. Tulips and other bulbs have been taken with perfect safety. As for the plants most likely to do well in Australia, we know a Nottingham man, established in that quarter of the globe, who has been over to England twice, and on both occasions made the best collection he could of dwarf roses and calceolarias; but, no doubt, any and every handsome plant cultivated here, would be prized in that rising colony. We would advise our correspondent to take as many perennial seeds with him as possible, taking care, however, that they are not stowed away in the ship's hold. If possible, he had better have them in his berth.

A Cottager asks the best way to propagate his dahlias. If he have a dung bed, he may strike the cuttings when about three inches long; or he may divide the roots when they have started sufficiently.

JOHN TURNER.—Try root-pruning. Are the trees in a low situation? We have some very fine Mayduke cherries, on strong loam; the situation is low and wet; the trees are a sheet of bloom every year, but they have not, for the last ten years, borne a pound of fruit each.

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R. Stenson.—Some roses and fruits will be better on one sort of stock than another. As for roses growing on the crab apple, it is *all stuff*.

A Working Man.—Our little greenhouse, which we now use as a propagating pit, on the tank system, cost us for the alteration, £5 7s. 6d. This included boiler, pipes, cement, labour, &c. and we are highly pleased with the way it works.

I. W.—Potatoes.—Can our correspondent drain his garden, by soughing it? If not, he had better grow his potatoes on raised beds, with a deep trench between. This will lay the soil dry.

Climbers for an Arbour.—James Mettam.—*Two Roses.*—Amadis, crimson Boursault; Felicite perpetuel, double white.

Two Clematis.—The large dark blue, and Clematis flamula, sweet-scented white.

Two Honeysuckles.—Sheppardii, Scarlet Trumpet; Mandevillii, white and pink.

Fanny.—Vines and plants do not at all times agree. However, if plants are the primary consideration, the vines had better be trained as single rods, up each rafter, so that the house may be as light as possible. Air should be given in fine sunny weather, and particular attention paid to watering and cleanliness. On the first appearance of green fly, the house should be fumigated, choosing, if possible, a rainy day, the wet filling up the interstices between the laps of the glass, and thus preventing the escape of the smoke. We noticed, in our calendar, a few plants calculated to make a great show, and easily managed, such as cinerarias, mimuluses, calceolarias, fuchsias, petunias, verbenas, &c. But our friend must, after all her attention, get a good stock of vegetable soil and sand. This, with occasional doses of very weak liquid manure, will grow well the plants we have enumerated.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR APRIL.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

Perhaps few florists' flowers have improved so much, in so short a space, as *pansies*. Seedlings of last year are fast coming into bloom. Any that may have a novel colour or marking, it would be well to save, even if they are not quite so round as they might be. These we would advise to be cultivated far

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away from the general stock, saving and sowing seed from them, in order, if possible, to obtain offsprings of a better form, with the same singular colour or marking which first attracted attention. Sow seed in shallow pans, placing them in cold frames, and sheltering from heavy or excessive wet. The propagation of the different varieties may be attended to, taking side-cuttings, where possible, the smaller the better. Placed under a hand-glass, in a shady situation, they soon strike root.

Tulip beds will require considerable attention. If the surface soil is stirred, mind this is not done too deep, as we know some florists who injured their bloom last year by so doing. The florists in this neighbourhood have covered their beds with warp lace. We have purchased twenty yards in length, by five feet wide, for ten shillings, and with care, it will last for several years. It is a great safeguard against frosts, cutting winds, and hail, and would doubtless be a great acquisition to hundreds of growers, especially this season, when so many are competitors in one or other of the great northern shows.

Dahlias should now be propagated by cuttings. When about the thickness of a crow-quill they strike best; the first gross shoots seldom make good plants.

Pinks have in some situations suffered severely. Amateurs will now find how necessary it is to have a few pairs wintered in pots, with which vacancies, at this time, may be filled up. The surface soil should be stirred, and a top-dressing of rich compost, formed of decayed leaves and thoroughly rotten melon or cucumber bed manure, given. This should be in the form of a black unctuous soil, and will have a most beneficial effect on the plants.

Ranunculuses.—The past dry weather has been more retarding to these flowers than otherwise. When they appear, the bed should be gone carefully over, for they are apt to raise the soil, and we have seen considerable injury done, when the neck of the plants are thus left bare. Seedlings must be protected from the direct rays of the sun, as well as from excessive wet.

GREENHOUSE.

The greenhouse will now require abundance of air, in all fine weather. Plants in flower are not particularly partial to tobacco-smoke; therefore, on the principle that *prevention is better than cure*, and that the blooms may not be disfigured, we would advise fumigation (whether the green fly is seen or not), several times before the expansion of their blossoms.

Fuchsias, when growing, like an abundance of moisture. *Calceolarias* also enjoy a moist atmosphere. There will be many young plants which now require repotting. It is by no means advisable to soak these with water, as soon as done. *Camellias* will often get into a bad state, from becoming pot-

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bound. The roots are apt to mat together, and when watered, it runs by the side of the pots, without moistening the ball. These, then, should be repotted, and some growers will bore two or three holes through the mass of roots, that the water may have free access.

Cinerarias and *scarlet geraniums* should have regular attention. Seeds and cuttings of both may be sown or struck. If *tender annuals* have not already been sown, no time should be lost. The *schizanthuses*, *balsams*, &c., are excellent things for summer decoration, when other plants are turned out.

As soon as new plants of *verbenas* are obtained, the tips should be removed, to induce a bushy habit. These may be struck in gentle heat, and will, if properly and carefully managed, soon make good plants.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Celery plants should be pricked out on beds of decayed leaves, or other vegetable mould. There appears to be much excitement on the subject of celery growing, new sorts, &c. We lately saw a small portion of seed, from Sheffield, which cost the very exorbitant sum of thirty-two shillings per ounce. All sorts of *cauliflower broccoli*, *Brussels sprouts*, &c., should be got in not later than the first week.

Turnips, for main crop, such as Snowball, Stone, &c., should be sown. Also successions of *peas* and *beans*, *lettuces*, *turnip radishes*, &c. Plant out autumn-sown *cauliflower*, in rich soil. *Cucumber plants* should also be put into their frames; as for sorts, their name is legion, Infant, Victory of Bath, Prize Fighter, Cuthill's Black Spine, &c., with Improved Manchester, and Sion House, have all their admirers and advocates.

Stir between rising crops. The small hand-hoes, recommended some time ago by Mr. Barnes, of Bicton, are admirable for this purpose.

FRUIT GARDEN.

We presume all training, pruning, &c., is done. Grafting *apple trees* may be still performed. *Apricots*, and trees in flower, will want protection from cutting winds and sharp frosts. A friend of ours, the other day, stated that he had a dwarf Marie Louise pear, which always flowered well, but from its earliness, seldom bore fruit, the blossoms being cut off. We recommended some of the same description of covering that we use for our tulip bed, and as it is very cheap, we see no reason why a *veil* might not be put over the dwarf bushes, which would in a great measure prevent the effects of the frost and wind.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

AN INVALID'S GARDEN.

I AM, and have been for years, a great invalid, and am passionately fond of flowers, though unable to enjoy their beauties out of doors, and am therefore confined to those which I can tend in my windows Whilst endeavouring to while away many weary hours, the thought has frequently been forcibly impressed upon my mind, that an immense increase of recreation and pleasure is yet within reach of sufferers like myself. It may be visionary, yet I assure you, I have dwelt on my plan with the most delighted feelings, and pictured in my mind's eye a perfect little paradise of flowers. The late measures of government, in removing the duty on bricks and glass, will now enable even me to attempt what I have long only thought of. My plan is simply this: to have built, a span-roofed pit, covered with thick rolled glass, which is not much dearer than slates; and on each side to have a bed, if I may so call it, heated by hot water (to be used only when required); the surface of the bed to be of sheet iron, painted, and vulcanized, or undergone some process to prevent rust. In this iron I would have a series of circles cut, into which I would fit earthenware vessels, like seed pans, with ornamented margins, and arranged artistically. Now, would it not be possible to have these pans filled with beautiful flowers? and, to keep up the beauty of the place, as the flowers went out of bloom, might not the pans be lifted, and others, from a reserve garden, substituted? Could not one pan have scarlet verbenas, pegged down so as to

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make a mass? another white, and so through all the various shades? Could there not be some filled with gladioli, ixias, achimenes, &c.? Could there not be circular masses of crocuses, hyacinths, and flowers of a similar character, for spring? These might be succeeded by scores of other things, and why not thus have a miniature flower garden? Here could the effect of combination and contrast of colour be carried out, affording information of the most interesting kind; and here could I, or any other invalid, secure from draughts and damp, tend these beautiful offsprings of nature, and though debarred from the enjoyments which many others have, here we could, in thankfulness, look from nature up to nature's God.

How beautiful would be masses of Russian violets, the lower sorts of calceolarias, campanulas, mimuluses, and every other plant that is used for bedding. Then I would have wires stretch over head, on which might hang in festoons the Maurandia, Calempelis, Passiflora, &c. I would have no single plants, except the climbers; and the others should be so planted as to fill their respective pans or beds. Now, do you not think my plan possible? and would it not be very beautiful?

I. F.

Manchester.

[We like the idea much, and if well carried out it would indeed be beautiful.—Ed.]

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Conrad (Brown).—Not in his catalogue. First-row byblœmen, flamed. My note on this flower says, fine, 1847; flushed, 1848; and extraordinarily rich and good, as well as fine, 1849.

Prince of Wales.—First-row rose. Bought two at the late Mr. Jeffery's sale. There were several in the collection, and all the same, marking good starred flame, the colour a delicate rose. The raiser unknown to me.

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Romulus (Lawrence).—Fourth-row bizarre. Strong flower, occasionally over full. 7s. 6d.

Virgil (Clark).—Fourth-row flamed byblœmen. About 2s. 6d.

Rembrandt (Groom).—Second-row bizarre, not of much account. The marking good flame, the petals flimsy and collapsed. 5s.

Lord Elliott.—Fourth-row. The ground straw, the marking strong beam and full flame, sometimes delicate beam and flame with feather, and again a strong beam with a little flame. This is consequently unsteady, nevertheless a good bed flower, of tricolor cast.

Rufus (I think one of Strong's).—First-row bizarre, flamed. I have had this with feather only.

Claude (Groom).—Third-row byblœmen. Fine flame, with feather. This is good. £1 1s.

Lady Spencer (Walker).—Third-row rose, flamed. Comes out creamy, then bleaches.

Eclipse (Groom).—A well-marked vivid red flame. Second row. Not clean, but very showy. Now expunged from his catalogue.

Sylvia (Clark).—First or second-row byblœmen. White pure, rich dark claret beam, with black feathering and a little flame. Two in my bed with this character, and all the blooms I saw last season the same. Mr. Lightbody has this name in his catalogue, at 1s.; surely it cannot be the same strain.

Lord Denbigh (Lawrence).—Third-row byblœmen. Well-marked flame and a little feather. £1.

Sir Robert Peel (Smith, an amateur of long standing, who has introduced some very pretty things).—Second-row byblœmen. A beauty, in the way of an extra-fine Pandora, but darker.

Artabanes (Clark).—Second or third-row byblœmen. Flamed and a little feathering, occasionally slightly stained, when over-charged with pollen. About 2s. 6d.

Ariadne (Franklin).—Second-row rose. Fine cherry flame. £2.

Elizabeth (Wells).—Third-row byblœmen. Good violet flame.

Tancredi (Pinder).—Second-row byblœmen. A delicate-marked flame, with small portion of feather; a fine cup, but rather small.

Osiris (Greig).—First-row bizarre. This is good, one point excepted; that is, having a defective speck at the base of each petal. It is put in some catalogues as second-row, I never get it beyond the first.

Roi de Congo.—A pretty byblœmen, flamed, about the second row. Although an old flower, I do not find it in any catalogue. In every bed, last season, I saw this in fine condition.

Roi de Navarre.—A pretty first-row bizarre, flamed. 7s. 6d.

Apollo Belvidere.—This is also a pretty first or second row bizarre, flamed. 10s.

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Talma (Strong).—Fourth-row byblœmen, full flame. A coarse thing, and not worthy a place in a fine collection. It is stained.

Cincinnatus (Clark).—A fine flamed byblœmen, third row. 10s.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT PINKS.

LAST year, I procured a few pairs of these favourite flowers of mine, and bloomed them during the summer of 1849. Some were what are called north, and the other south country flowers; the difference in which was extreme. There was a flower called Gray's Defiance, sent me from the neighbourhood of Leigh, Lancashire, with an excellent character; but I will defy any one to say in what its excellence consists. If a flat, semidouble, frilled thing is to be sent out as first-rate, the sooner we all trust to you editors of floral publications the better. I have a root of

Smith's Princess Royal, raised, I believe, at Oxford. Large full-sized flower, tolerably smooth, the ground colour rather indistinct at its junction with the white.

Then another north flower,

Bramma's Unique, a *thimble of a flower*, but still, though small, pretty. Crowns well, lace heavy, flower perfectly round.

Again, for contrast,

Willmer's Laura, a fine and constant purple-laced pink, with, as it should be, a white margin beyond the dark lace, the white extremely pure, the lace well defined, and the petals nearly rose-leaved.

A very different flower is

Bell's Fanny, it being coarse and very much serrated; in fact, though rather ungallant, I pulled Frances up, for I could not make up my mind to pipe any cuttings.

Mills's Lady Flora Hastings I think I liked. It is a very large flower, blooming singularly flat; the centre petals, therefore, want a little help, when intended for exhibition; but the petals imbricate naturally (without artificial aid), as well as any pink I have seen, yet I do not think it a sort that would *take*, either in the north or the midland counties.

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Kirtland's Lord Valentia is a pleasing bold flower; the lacing red and very heavy, the white remarkably pure.

Looker's Brilliant is large and coarse, with an uneven lace, which is only good in colour.

Marris's Rosalind is rather under the mark; but it is a right sort to go to work with, for improving the breed. The marking is good, and petal first-rate.

Hand's Pilot.—With this I was disappointed in the first flowers, but some of the latter came up to my idea of a perfect pink. It is evidently uncertain, but when right, will, I think, stand very forward in the purple-laced class.

Hudson's Duke of Devonshire.—Unfortunately slightly serrated, else a noble dark purple lace. Also uncertain.

Now I have given you my candid opinion, yet perhaps I may be wrong. Would it not be a good idea to get up two pink shows, on the plan of the carnation shows, as I am persuaded that there is more difference of opinion with regard to this flower than all the rest put together?

ROBERT KEETLY.

COPPICEANA.

No. IV.

OUR description will now include some splendid trees, namely Æsculus (the Horse Chestnut). The common sort, when in full flower, is a beautiful object, and has been compared, at that period, to a "giant's nosegay." We have several others. One of the handsomest is the

Æsculus Rubicunda. (The Red-flowering Chestnut.)—It is not so dense in habit as the common variety, the leaves also are smoother and somewhat smaller. It flowers profusely, and its beautiful erect spikes of red blossoms give it a very attractive appearance. Our specimen plant, last year, was a complete picture. There are some good plants of this very handsome tree at Lord Harrington's, Elvaston Castle, near Derby. It is propagated by grafting on the common variety. The price ranges from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. according to size.

Æsculus Hippocastanum Flore Pleno (The Double-flowering Horse Chestnut), is of recent introduction from the Continent, and is extremely curious. The spikes of flowers are

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very long, the stamens being metamorphosed into petals; they may be compared to loose spikes of double hyacinths. Price, 2s. 6d.

Æsculus Spectabilis. (The Showy Horse Chestnut.)—This is also a new sort, of rather erect habit. The flower spikes are much larger than the common. A noble variety, and should be grown wherever such a tree is desired. 2s. 6d.

Æsculus Crispum. (The Curled-leaved Horse Chestnut.)—This has not much to recommend it; it looks coarse, the foliage being large and ribbed, making a dense mass during summer. It may be grown as a variety, but few would choose it in preference to those previously enumerated. The price of grafted plants is 1s. 6d.

Ailanthus.

Ailanthus Glandulosa.—This tree is an especial favourite, being extremely ornamental. The foliage is very long and pinnate, the wood is rather gross, and in some situations is killed back a little. The frost has a singular effect on the leaves; for, unlike most other deciduous trees, which, on the approach of winter, gradually become bare, this tree will, the first frosty night, be wholly divested of foliage. We have seen the leaves, on young trees, at least two feet in length, standing out horizontally from the branches. It is propagated freely by seeds imported from America, and also by *cuttings of the roots.* We have in our nursery a plant which has many of the leaves variegated in the spring, but as the summer advances, they assume their usual character. This tree is so remarkable, as well as beautiful, that it ought to be extensively planted in all ornamental grounds. 9d. to 1s.

Amelanchier.

Amelanchier Botryapium.—A very nice small tree, flowering in early spring, and bearing a great quantity of white blossoms, whence its common or popular name, Snowy Mespilus. The foliage, in the autumn, assumes a red tint, which renders it extremely ornamental. It is well adapted for belts in shrubberies, and is worthy of a place in every collection of hardy trees. It is propagated by layers of the previous year's wood, which root readily. It is by no means an expensive tree, plants from three to four feet being 6d. each.

Araucaria.

Araucaria Imbricata.—A very fine evergreen tree, of quite a distinct character. The foliage clothes the branches thickly, and is very rigid and sharp. The price of this plant is now much lower; they may be obtained, eighteen inches to two feet, for 2s. 6d. There is a fine plant at Lord Harrington's, and at the Birmingham Botanic Garden. A dry soil appears

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to suit it best, though we have one in a low damp situation, where rhododendrons flourish, which is healthy, and doing well, so that it does not appear absolutely necessary that it should have sandy or dry subsoil. Propagated by seeds.

Azalea.

The varieties of this beautiful sweet-scented early-blooming plant are numerous, though we do not grow many of them. They generally make compact bushes, bearing heads of honeysuckle-shaped flowers, varying in colour from pure white through all the shades of yellow and pink, to deep scarlet. It is known sometimes as the Upright American Honeysuckle. We grow

Azalea Popeana.—Large creamy flower.

A. Aurantia Major.—Beautiful deep orange blooms.

A. Rubra.—Handsome scarlet.

A. Pontica.—Yellow flowers. This is the most common, growing freely from seeds, and in the sandy peat soils of Bagshot and Woking flourishes amazingly. We have some of the Ghent azaleas, but on our strong soil they do not thrive. This variety may be purchased at from 6d. to 2s. 6d. according to size; the scarlet varieties, 1s. 6d. to 5s.

Aralia.

Aralia Japonica.—This tree has splendid foliage, each leaf being studded with spines; the trunk of the tree and the shoots are also thickly covered with them. It is so singularly distinct as to immediately attract the attention of the most indifferent spectator. It bears spikes of white flowers, but our plant has not yet blossomed. Price of plants, two to three feet, 2s. 6d.

Arundinaria.

Arundinaria Falcata. (The Hardy Bamboo.)—We much fear that this plant will disappoint many, coming, as it does, from mountains in the north of India, and described as reaching fifty feet in height, besides being very hardy. Our plant, which we have grown three years, has not yet reached fifty inches. It dies down each winter, and shoots again in spring. It has a grassy look, and as yet there is nothing very prepossessing about it. It is said to be covered with snow, in the winter, in its native country. Perhaps, if grown like our common reed, in a situation where the crown of the plant could be covered with water, and thus secured from frost, it might do better. Price, 2s. each.

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HAYWOOD'S MAGNIFICENT.

In the *Midland Florist*, for February, 1850, in your notes on tulips seen in the summer of 1849, you remark that Haywood's Magnificent was nothing like the representation in *Beck's Florist;* that yours opened "yellow as a primrose," and was without any good points; that you also saw one at Hinckley, similar in character, or rather out of character; and you justly conclude that yours is an inferior break. To the truth of this I demur not, as I am well aware that there is an "inferior break" in circulation; and my object in troubling you with these lines is, to request that you will suspend your judgment on the merits of this flower, until you have seen it in better condition. As I was among the first who broke this variety, and having broken it in three different characters, I think I may safely assert, that I have had some experience in the matter. I will just mention one circumstance in the history of this flower. It is not convenient for me to visit the various tulip exhibitions, and my circle of acquaintance is small and local, and, therefore, I have not had the opportunity of making its merits known so fully as they ought to have been; but all who have seen it in this district speak of it in terms of admiration. The only place I have exhibited it at is the Royal Society for the encouragement of Floriculture, held at Watson's Hotel, Fleet-street, London, May 29, 1849, where its merits were fully canvassed by a number of the fancy, and it was admitted to be the best middle-row rose tulip in cultivation, one person only dissenting, and he acknowledged himself to be no grower of tulips. Mr. Glenny was amongst the number present, and he did not hesitate to give it the above character. That Magnificent is faultless I do not assert; but the pearly whiteness of the ground and the brilliant colour of the marking, together with other fair properties, justly entitle it to the name it bears, and render it one of the most striking

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flowers in cultivation. I hope to be able, this season, to send you a bloom, but the difficulty is, how to pack it, so as to reach you in safety. Perhaps you will, in your next number, give a hint as to the best method of sending flowers for your opinion.

In conclusion, I will just repeat the substance of a correspondence with Mr. Lightbody, on this subject. He (Mr. L.) assured me that he had thrown away far better seedlings than the breeder Magnificent; that it was long in the cup, narrow-petalled, and creamy. My answer to him, as nearly as I can now recollect, was, that among what was called the Magnificent breeders I had found three distinct sorts, all varying in both shape and colour; the darker coloured variety was here called Jenny Lind,* the brightest colour is the Magnificent proper, and the third, a long-cupped pale rose, is worthless—I have destroyed all I had of it. This last sort, I know, has been distributed throughout the country, in both the breeder and the rectified state, and my conclusion is, that you are among the number who have got this break. However that may be, I hope to circulate a few blooms this season, with a view to disabuse the fancy respecting this variety.

H. W.

ON

THE PROPER MODE OF EXHIBITING CARNATIONS.

We cannot see such a movement in floriculture as that proposed by Mr. Edwards, without regretting that there should be anything introduced that creates a difference of opinion; but that man must surely be in error who cannot see where a difference begins; and the entire responsibility of all divisions rests on the individual who makes the first deviation from established and approved rules. The great northern

* This we also have.—Ed.

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tulip show might have been a grand affair, had there been no "split;" and on whom does the responsibility of this rest? On the first man who proposed an alteration in the subscription, from five shillings to ten. On whom will the responsibility of the worst division that ever took place rest, if Mr. Edwards persist in the unfloristlike withdrawal of the test applied ever since showing was the fashion? Why, on Mr. Edwards. It is an insult to a good florist to propose that he shall show his flowers with a card. It is a reflection on the best florists of the day, to introduce a system that shall enable every man to mask his flowers, and force a good grower to hide by a card that portion of his flowers which it is his pride to show in health and perfection; for notwithstanding the Irish language in which the eighth proposed rule is couched—notwithstanding it is impossible to conform to it, until a thing "covered" is a thing "exposed," we all know what it means. It does not mean that the pod shall be exposed, but it does mean that the card shall in part cover it. Let any florist (we speak of those who can command a good bloom by their skill, and not of those who rely on numbers for the chances of finding enough, and who would rejoice in the toleration of split pods), let any florist see the various means by which cards are kept in their places, and say that pods can be exposed. We have seen the best growers, after the judges have done their work, carding the flowers: some cut their cards so that vandyke springs, as it were, cover the best or largest portion of the pod; others drag the stems and pods through pieces of paper; something must be done to keep the cards up in their places, and hide the pods, whereas the pride of a good florist is to show that he can get a good bloom without damaging his pod, the pride of a good flower is that it shall bloom freely without bursting. What but a determination to raise two parties in the floral world, can be the object of changing the tests by which skill in raising and skill in blooming are

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to be recognized? We are not prepared to cast a slur upon thousands of old florists whose lessons we respect, and who have always regarded the slightest tie or card as a disqualifying blotch; and however much we may respect Mr. Edwards and his motives, we can tell him that his proposal, which is only carrying out Mr. Lightbody's, Mr. Slater's, Mr. Barringer's, Mr. Twitchett's, and twenty other growers' notions, is popular; but if he persists in showing on cards, there will be a worse split than ever deranged floriculture before, and that on *him alone will rest the responsibility.* That he will get up a show there is no doubt; but if he, or any other grower, will tell us seriously that it will be half so good, or be competed at by half so many good florists, as it would with the old honest way of showing, we should contradict him with nearly forty letters from respectable florists, who thank us for the stand we have made in behalf of fair, open, honest showing, and who declare that those who choose to create a new division in floriculture, may show by themselves. We have felt half inclined to publish these letters, because many are from men whose names would carry weight; but we are in hopes that the good sense of all classes will prevail sufficiently to force the abandonment of so discreditable a proposition as judging carnations and picotees on cards.

G. G.

[We consider Mr. Edwards's proposal of the two shows a most excellent one, to test the merits of north and south country-raised flowers: but we give the opinion of another correspondent.—Ed.]

What do you think of Mr. Edwards's plan? Although not a carnation grower, I am delighted to see such a spirit; but fear the cards will cause a gloom. *I*, for one, am against the practice entirely, *knowing that glaring faults easily slip the most scrutinizing censors.* I give you two cases in point. At the show held at Derby, in 1848, Mr. Merryweather exhibited his Jenny Lind, and, perhaps you

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will remember, won with it and some other varieties the first pan of carnations. Now the bloom of Jenny Lind he never intended to exhibit. For why? "*Because.*" Cards, however, being allowed, he did so, and you have the result.

"Old John Hufton" was taught a lesson; but even *his* teacher had not the "eyes of Argus" on the occasions I allude to. At the Derby show in '48, and *also* in '49, MUTILATED blooms sufficient to disqualify stands of any number *did win prizes.* It made little matter whether they had *split* pods or CLIPT ones, they *all* escaped the notice of the judges, and came in for prizes; and all this in consequence of the abominable practice of showing on cards. It will get no support here. It is nothing but a nasty lazy mode, to save time in getting flowers fit for the mark. I fully expect this subject will form a stiff discussion at Manchester. If it do, I shall certainly take the sense of the meeting on so slovenly an infringement of the good old system of carnation showing.

TO THE NORTHERN GROWERS OF THE CARNATION AND PICOTEE.

GENTLEMEN—Enabled by the courtesy of the editor of this excellent work, to address you, I beg to invite your attention to the remarks of Mr. Edwards, at pages 47 and 101, on the difference, or assumed difference of opinion existing between northern and southern cultivators of these flowers, and to the proposed means of merging such difference. I believe every thinking florist will agree with me in regarding the subject as one of great moment to *all* individually, and its important bearing on the interests of floriculture cannot be questioned. Speaking from experience, I can truly declare, that I have long felt the necessity for bringing this question to an issue, and I presume that I am not singular in this experience. What then, gentlemen, is our plain duty? Let us take counsel together. Should we be lukewarm and indifferent, or prompt and energetic, in the expression of our opinion, as confident in our faith? Can we hesitate? Are we men possessed with a reason for the

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faith that is in us, and earnestly desirous of diffusing the truth? or are we mere pretenders—empirics—seeking to delude, and shunning the light? These are questions we must severally answer, and our future position depends on our response. Come forth then, gentlemen, in your whole strength, and soon this hydra-headed discord shall melt before your might. Examine the proposition fairly, give it your most attentive consideration, and I feel persuaded, the more you consider it, the more will you approve the plan, and the more heartily join me in rendering honour to those who conceived and who are now busily engaged in perfecting this good work. And, gentlemen, it will be perfected. Every sign of the times indicates the progress of our dearly-prized science, and forbids that delusion, and doubt, and empiricism, shall obscure its path. All honour to the men who have stood forth to rescue us from taint and shame, and who now stand forth ready to lead to further victory.

But one point may excite your doubts and fears: it is proposed that "the flowers be shown on cards." Let us calmly and temperately reason on this. The *knowledge of the truth* is to be arrived at only by careful research, and by wholly divesting ourselves of prejudice and foregone conclusion. To this I invite you. You are told the introduction of the card will be the prelude to every evil: that in its train will come thin petals, short gouty and split pods, and all that can debase our own pet flower. Can this be so? If thin petals must of necessity follow the permitting the flower to be shown *on a ground*, how is it that the pansy, a flower always *so exhibited*, has attained the substance it now possesses? And as to the possibility of admitting split pods, the asserters of such a fact must be strangely ignorant of the application of the card, or presume wonderfully on your gullibility; for if I have read "your annals" right, no pod is a split pod, unless the division reach the sub-calyx; and as the length of the pod above the sub-calyx is on an average full an inch or upwards, how a card the *sixteenth* or *twentieth* part of an inch in thickness, can cover an *inch* or *more*, I am indeed at a loss to discover. It is merely an illustration how far men may go when blinded by passion or prejudice. But this is not all. You are told, "judges cannot discriminate the better flower on a card." Who and what, then, are judges? Are they abstract creations, of different requirement to all ordinary men? or are they not, if *of the best*, merely exhibiters of the highest class? And you, exhibiters, do not you *invariably* discriminate the better flower on cards? Is it not your *regular* practice to select your flowers for exhibition whilst on cards? Why then should you question the ability of men whom you hold to be in advance of yourselves to do so? Put away such fears, they become you not. *No evil* can be alleged as attendant on the card, which does not

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exist in at least as eminent a degree without it. Why, then should we hesitate? The grace and finish is admitted by all, even by those who would fain excite your prejudice. An excellent cultivator, writing from Leeds, says, "many here laugh at the idea of showing on cards. However, I was convinced of the merit of the plan, when with you, last year; and only wish others would go this year, and at all events give the thing a fair trial."

Gentlemen—I am so convinced of the merit of the system—so convinced of its beneficial effect on the culture of these flowers, that all I ask of you is, *give it a fair trial.* Be assured, the model flower of the north—its faultless outline, spotless purity, and brilliant marking—is as much *enhanced* by the card as the confused heap of petals your fears may conjure up is *aided;* and, my word for it, your opinion will suffer nothing by its adoption.

One word, before I close. At the time I write (April 15), the success of this movement is decided. Already an expression, unprecedented in its unanimity, has been recorded; and those who would desire to claim a share in bringing this question to an issue, must be prompt, or be *too late.* Rest assured, opposition cannot hinder, or supineness retard its progress. I am, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

E. S. DODWELL.

P.S.—The proceedings of our friends here are recorded in an advertisement in the present number; and I beg to refer all interested to the gentlemen forming the northern committee, or to John Edwards, Esq., Wace Cottage, Holloway, the treasurer of the fund.

MEETINGS AT WORTON COTTAGE, FOR THE DISPLAY AND EXAMINATION OF SEEDLING FLORISTS' FLOWERS AND OTHER PRODUCTIONS.

NOTHING is more desirable than that seedling florists' flowers should be well seen and examined by many observers. It was, therefore, with pleasure we heard of Mr. Beck's intention to have whatever might be sent for the opinions of the *Florist, and Garden Miscellany,* placed upon tables, and arranged so that not only the censors of that work, but any parties who chose to attend, might examine them. A place has been fitted up purposely, in a capital situation,

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with good light, &c.; and it will be a great oversight, if those who have such productions, do not post them so as to reach Worton Cottage on the Wednesday morning of each week. For ourselves, we have made an arrangement with a friend, who will give us a report of these meetings, and of anything striking which may appear at them. The first was held on Wednesday, April 3, and considering the weather we have had, there was really a rich display. The exhibition room is twenty-six feet long, with a series of green baize-covered tables or shelves, rising to the back; the front is a series of glass sashes, to which the observer has his back turned, when examining the flowers; above, are two large lights in the roof; in short, the subjects of examination cannot be seen to greater advantage. On the occasion we are reporting, the back stage was covered with a row of first-rate varieties of cinerarias, from Mr. B.'s greenhouses. Then there were two beautiful seedling rhododendrons, from the gardens of her Grace, the Duchess Dowager of Northumberland, and some other plants from the same establishment. Seedling epacrises, from Mr. Strong, maintained that gentleman's name as a raiser of this interesting tribe of plants. But our path lies more amongst other productions, so we come at once to the pansies, of which Messrs. Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, and Mr. Edwards, of Wace Cottage, Holloway, showed two beautiful stands of twenty-four each. In that of the former was a seedling, named Mr. Beck, deep yellow ground, broad marone belting, top petals of same shade, full size, edge very smooth, and a very stout flower. Beside it was a seedling from Mr. Thomson, of Iver—Penelope, a white-ground flower of good size, broad belting of rich purple, top petals same shade; superior to Almanzer, but in the same style. Some curiously mottled seedling Chinese primroses came from the Rev. A. Matthews, of Weston-on-the-Green, Oxon; also a fine variety, named Superba, of the crimson class. A cineraria, from Mr. Biddiscomb, claimed

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much notice, from its beautiful ultra-marine colour, but in form it could not reach the standard of those on the table, which was the case with some other productions not requiring our notice. Wednesday, April 10, fifteen varieties of seedling cinerarias were sent by W. G. Ampthill, a few single flowers of each. All present agreed that the right plan is to send trusses. Many were very beautiful, but ten only claimed particular description. No. 1, a delicately-coloured flower, white, with lilac edge, disk rather too large, broad petals, but a little indented. One numbered four, fine form, white ground, with rosy purple tip, a flower of moderate size. A seedling from this raiser, and one from another, might claim a place as fancy flowers; the former had a distinct edge of colour all round the petal, the other had the half of each petal quilled. L. L. sent three flowers of a seedling not so good in colour as Turner's Sylph, but a great improvement upon it in shape. With it came a large bloom of a seedling pansy, bad edge, and wanting consistency in colour. Sampson, a seedling of 1850, a large bold flower, wanting smoothness, must improve, to merit a place. To try these seedlings, there stood on the table a stand of twenty-four best varieties, sent by Mr. Bragg, Star Nursery, Slough, and beautiful indeed they were. A seedling amongst them will be seen, we hope, to more advantage, for it is one of much promise. L. L. should have been present to have seen his six seedlings compared with them; it would show how difficult a task is before the seedling pansy raiser. Mr. Willison, Whitby, sent two seedling roses. One was all to pieces, but the other, a H.P. Fulgens, was in a half-expanded state, and most fragrant indeed. All present hoped to see them again.

April 17. The Royal South London show made this nearly a blank day, but one pansy, sent by L.L. will make a first-rate show flower, and will assuredly be seen again. We will not lengthen our report, as the azaleas and cinerarias presented nothing requiring remark.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

NEW HARDY FLOWERS.

PENTSTEMON HETEROPHYLLUS. *(The Variable-leaved Pentstemon.)*—A very beautiful plant, figured in the *Gardener's Magazine of Botany;* a valuable addition. The flowers are pink, produced in spikes.

Mr. Glenny exhibited, at the Horticultural Society's rooms, on the 5th of March, a very excellent new crocus, of superior properties, called *Incomparable Blue.* The petals are stout, and the form fine. This variety should be borne in mind, and obtained when possible.

THE DOUBLE DARK PURPLE AURICULA.—This very singular and pretty hardy plant is grown by Mr. Rollison, of Tooting. As a florists' flower, of course, it has no pretensions; but as a very nice border or pot plant, it is desirable.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

STORY'S MULTIPLEX FUCHSIA.—A double variety, and very pretty. The contrast is great also between tube and corolla, the former being very bright scarlet, whilst the latter is dark purple. The habit of the plant is good, and it blooms most profusely.

SUPERBA CHINESE PRIMROSE.—All or most of our readers know what very beautiful free-flowering plants the Double White, Fringed White, and other varieties are. They will be glad to learn that the

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Rev. A. Matthews, celebrated for his fine picotees, has raised some very good seedlings, which were exhibited at Worton Cottage, April the 3rd. (See report. It is described as *a rich dark crimson variety*, and, of course, is and will be a most desirable plant. At the same time, some very distinct mottled varieties were exhibited.

GRAND MASTER FUCHSIA (Henderson).—A very large and distinct sort. Crimson, with a very beautiful purple corolla.

COMPACTUM SUPERBUM.—A very excellent scarlet geranium, of fine form, with white centre. The scarlet is very brilliant.

Amongst other new plants we would recommend, are the miniature chrysanthemums. These bear the same relation to the larger varieties that the fairy rose does to the Chinese. We imagine the flowers would be well adapted for autumnal bouquets; they are small, compact, and pretty. The following six are distinct and good:—

Toulousaine.—Fine bright yellow.
Julie Langlade.—Very pretty French white.
Pompon d'Or.—Salmon.
Bijou.—Nice lilac.
La Lapone.—Flesh colour.
Le Nain Bébé.—Dark lilac.

HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS.

CEPHALOTAXUS FORTUNII.—A *desperate* name indeed! The tree is hardy and evergreen, grows quick, and, as its scientific name implies, belongs to or is somewhat like the yew. From the north of China.

LARDIZABALA BITERNATA.—We positively wish, without getting into disgrace with botanists, we could manufacture some expressive short name for this plant, as well as the preceding one. This last is a hardy evergreen climbing shrub, and therefore will be in much request. It bears abundance of brownish

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purple flowers, and what is better still, its fruit is sold in the Chilian markets.

BERBERIS JAPONICA.—Mr. Fortune, to whom we are indebted for so many beautiful plants from the north and other parts of China, has discovered the above fine evergreen. He states it to have large pinnate (ashlike) leaves. Each leaflet (a small leaf attached to the midrib) was nearly as large as that of an English holly, spiny, and of a fine dark shining green colour. It far surpasses in beauty all the known species of mahonias (berberries with ashlike foliage).

GOOD LETTUCE.

IN the *Gardener's Chronicle*, for March 2nd, is a very interesting and useful description of lettuces. It gives the names and synonyms by which they are known both in this country and on the Continent. It is here stated that

White Paris Coss is the very best, being "very large, light green, leaves hooded at the top so that they close in without tying, blanching white, crisp, *so excellent that one would suppose no higher degree of perfection could be obtained, as regards a summer lettuce.*"

Green Paris Coss, or *Ady's Coss*, is also highly spoken of; to which we bear willing testimony. It is said to be hardier than the preceding.

Artichoke-leaved Lettuce.—Straggling in growth. When tied up and well blanched, it is very tender and excellent, and capable of bearing a considerable degree of frost.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

BROWN'S PATENT FUMIGATOR.—We have often used a machine for the purpose of destroying insects, which had a perforated tin box (in which was placed

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the lighted tobacco) screwed on the muzzle. When this was applied, the tobacco smoke was driven HOT upon the plants, and often injured them. By the very excellent little instrument we now have, this is completely obviated, as the smoke is thrown in a continuous jet, so cool, that the most delicate plant is uninjured. It may be had of all ironmongers, seedsmen, and florists.—*See advertisement, in our last month's advertising sheet.*

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR MAY.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

THIS is the month when the pansy-grower will be fully repaid for all his previous trouble. Those in pots, and in the autumn-planted beds, will be in full bloom throughout this month; and if the plants are such as they ought to be, from the grower having adopted the treatment we have recommended, the blooms will be large and fine, unless cold winds or frosty nights should make them curly and rough, and so disfigure the best kinds, and cause a new variety to be condemned before it has had a fair trial. Hence the reason of our recommending pot-culture as a certain plan of obtaining good blooms at an early period of the year.

Those in pots will now require watering more freely; that is, if the plants have done well, and made a vigorous growth: at every alternate watering we give them weak liquid manure. Watering, as well as the other operations enumerated, must, in a great measure, be left to the skill and judgment of

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the cultivator, to perform earlier or later than the time specified in these general directions.

Water in the morning until the weather has become settled and warm; when it is so, the afternoon, or evening will be preferable.

We make a point of going over the plants with the water-pot once a day; but in drying weather we run our eye over them two or three times a day, and water as many as have become dry; for which purpose a pot of liquid manure is kept standing by the frame. If only one plant requires it, it does not go without.

These little details, when fully carried out, cause the blooms from some gardens to be much finer than the same kinds from other places; so much so, as scarcely to be recognised as the same varieties.

By the middle of this month the weather is usually so warm, that the frames containing the plants in pots should be reversed, so as to face the north, which will help to keep them cooler; and the most favourable spot should be selected to this end. As before recommended, keep the lights pulled back on all occasions when the weather will permit; but previous to an exhibition, much care and attention will be necessary, as more flowers will be made unfit for competition by friction from the wind than from any other cause. It will be evident that the larger and finer the blooms are, the more liable they will be to get blown about. Yet to keep the lights constantly on would soon spoil the succession blooms, by drawing the plants.

When in flower, the plants should not be watered overhead, particularly if blooms are likely to be required at no distant period.

The principal exhibitions for this flower will take place about this time; to succeed at which, care must be taken of blooms that will be ready on a given day. To do this, a little shading will be necessary. Those that are in the habit of growing dahlias, carnations, or pinks for exhibition, will have

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ample means for this purpose. Shades made of tin, pasteboard, canvass, or small hand-glasses, will be found equally useful. Never shade the entire bed with canvass or other material; it would bring one fine head of bloom for a week or so, but from that time the blooms would degenerate in size, with drawn-up plants.

We need not point out the difference between the pansy and the tulip. The succession of bloom required from the former, and not from the latter, accounts for the difference in the mode of shading. But with the shades we first described, a single bloom can be protected without injury to the plant itself, or those around it. Remove the shade a few hours in the morning and evening; it will invigorate the bloom selected, and keep that part of the plant from drawing.

Much good will result from having some tall upright stakes, or any pieces of wood sufficiently high, placed close to the bed on the south side, to which fix some very thin canvass during the heat of the day. This will not draw the plants, as the canvass we use is sufficiently thin to admit the air passing through it, yet keeping the blooms in colour a longer time.

Six days before a show will suffice to look round for blooms likely to be good when fully grown; but the blooms so selected must not be shaded until a day or two later. This is supposing that the weather is warm; but should it be otherwise, extend the time, as the number of days a bloom will keep will depend on the weather. Those of good substance will of course keep the longest.

Put in as many cuttings as can be procured in this month; it will answer two purposes, strengthen the plant in the main shoots, and thereby increase the size of the blooms, and at the same time ensure a stock of all the leading kinds before the large plants begin to die off from the heat. Entire beds have been known to shank off during a very hot summer; and all we can say on this part of the subject is, that

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the further the pansy is removed from its original state by high cultivation, &c., the more they shank off in this manner.

Therefore, if our recommendations are attended to, by propagating as much as possible during the spring, the loss, comparatively, will be but trifling, as the young stock is not liable to go off from the same cause; and when we once get through the summer months, they generally grow like weeds.

To keep up a succession of large blooms, pluck off all small or otherwise inferior blossoms. Those that grow for competition only, often destroy the whole of the bloom for a few days to ensure a fine head, and a good choice for any particular occasion. At all times keep the plants clean of dead leaves. The side-shoots, and those that continue to break up from the root, must be kept down when large blooms are indispensable, whether they are required for increase or not.

The seedling beds will now be showing new faces; this is therefore an appropriate time to state the properties which constitute perfection in the pansy, as recognised for exhibition, as it may be of service in selecting the most promising to be grown another season, which is necessary to prove their constancy. The outline should be quite circular, the petals even on the edges, and quite flat; the face of the flower smooth (viz., free from crumple), otherwise the best formed variety will have a coarse appearance. In the outline we have many varieties that approach very near our standard, the deficiency generally being in the lower side of the bottom petal. It must have been observed that every step we have taken towards obtaining a perfectly round pansy, so much less is there seen of the top petals; this arises from increased size in the side and bottom petals, which, obliterating the deep indentations in the outline, have encroached upon the visible portion of the top petals. The side petals, if of good proportions and shape, will meet some distance above the eye; this will also improve the appearance of the belting,

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whether narrow or broad. The next point to notice is the centre or eye, which may be either solid or radiated, so that the lines do not extend to the margin; this latter is a material point. Another most desirable feature is, that the ground colour should be entire; whether white, lemon, or deep yellow, it should be the same in all the petals: many of the yellow-ground colours have a tendency to be of a deeper shade in the bottom petal; this is a fatal defect. The colours should be distinct, whether bright or deep, well-defined, and not joining the ground colour by a watery or indistinct edge. The oblong shape of the face or ground colour, as seen in some varieties, is very objectionable, as it gives the flower a long appearance, although the outline may be perfect. Selfs of any shade should be dense and rich, with a bold dark eye, and the more glossy the surface the better. Richness of surface is of course essential to all of them, as well as substance; neither should they be deficient in size, to be useful as show-flowers. There are too many of those called selfs which really do not belong to that class; neither can they well be classed with the yellow or white ground flowers. The yellow or white being indistinctly mottled with the dark colour about the eye is most objectionable.

Any seed that may have been saved during the autumn should now be sown in pans (the more early in the month the better), and placed in gentle heat. Care must be taken in watering after they are up, otherwise they are liable to shank off. Seedlings should be managed so as to flower either early in spring, or in the cool of autumn.

SEEDLING FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

We extract the following list of seedling florists' flowers, that received first-class certificates at the Royal South London floricultural exhibition, at the

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Surrey Zoological Gardens, in the year 1849, from that excellent periodical the *Gardeners' Hive*. At this period it will be found a useful guide to our friends, by pointing out the really good flowers among the new varieties advertised in the different nurserymen's lists.

PANSIES.

Helen (J. Hunt, Esq. High Wycombe).—White centre, with purple upper petals, the lower ones margined with the same colour; a very promising flower.

Mrs. Beck (C. Turner, Slough).—Possesses substance, medium size, and symmetry; a perfect gem in the white ground class.

Emma (J. Lane, Esq. West Wycombe).—A fine flower; yellow self.

Viceroy (C. Turner).—A distinct variety; bronzy red, with bright gold centre.

Negro (Schofield).—A fine dark variety, in the way of Satirist.

AURICULAS.

Sir Charles Napier (Dickson, Brixton).—A fine symmetrical green-edged variety; an acquisition to any selection.

Freedom (Dickson, Brixton).—A seedling from Booth's Freedom, not very unlike the parent, and equally desirable as the above.

Blue Self (Franklin, Islington).—A fine clear light blue; a flower of fine proportions, and a great acquisition in the self-coloured class.

POLYANTHUS.

Conqueror (Messrs. Ivery & Son).—A distinct, clean-laced, bright-coloured, and well-formed flower.

CINERARIAS.

Modesta (Ambrose).—Purple, shaded with white; good variety.

Alba Purpurea (Ambrose).—White and purple; an equally good flower.

Abdoloninus (Hamp).—Bright blue; a bold and striking flower.

Carlotti Grisi (Henderson).—White centre, with pale blue margin; extra fine.

Mrs. Villiers (Henderson).—Full purple with white centre.

Perodi (Henderson).—A shaded purple.

Pauline (Henderson).—Lilac, of strong purple tint.

One of the Ring (Ivery).—White, with purple margin; fine.

PELARGONIUMS.

Emily (E. Beck, Esq.)—A bright flower, greatly in the way of Centurion.

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Pontiff (E. Beck, Esq.)—A rich high-coloured flower.
Dowager (E. Beck, Esq.)—A fine showy flower; first-rate.
Major Domo (E. Beck, Esq.)—An immense flower, of good form and very stout petal.
Rosa (E. Beck, Esq.)—A chaste and beautiful variety.
Flying Dutchman (N. Gaines).—A well-formed and free-flowering variety.
Ne plus ultra (N. Gaines).—A fancy variety: superbly formed, and beautiful colour.
Hero of Surrey (N. Gaines).—Fancy variety; fine.
Gem (N. Gaines).—Fancy variety; both good flowers in this class.
Donna Inez (Ambrose).—Fancy variety; a neat and compact-formed flower.
Striata Coccinea (Hine).—Fancy variety, of good properties.

CARNATIONS.

Glendower (M. May, Esq.)—A first-rate crimson bizarre.
Falconbridge (M. May, Esq.)—A pink bizarre, equally good.

PICOTEES.

Duchess of Sutherland (Burroughes).—Red-edged; extra fine.
Lorina (Burroughes).—A purple-edge; excellent.
Lady Harriet Moore (Turner).—Purple-edge; good.

PETUNIAS.

Herseeana (W. Young).—Crimson, with black throat.
Youngii (W. Young).—Rich dark crimson, with jet black throat.
Pieta (W. Young).—Blush, margined with rosy purple; throat primrose.
Queen (W. Young).—Lilac, with dark throat; corolla stout.

FUCHSIAS.

Falstaff (C. Turner).—A superb globe variety; a decided improvement.
Kossuth (G. Smith).—A large flower, with well-expanded crimson petals.

ANTIRRHINUMS.

Model of Perfection (Pawsey).—A large delicately-pencilled flower.
Supreme (Pawsey).—An excellent flower.

DAHLIAS.

Lady Grenville (Bragg).—Red and white fancy, of excellent form.
Magnificent (Keynes).—Mottled rose; decidedly first-rate.
Sir J. Bathurst (Keynes).—Crimson, possessing first-rate properties.

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Miss Compton (Liddiard).—Scarlet and white fancy; good.
Dr. Gloss (Kendall).—A neatly-formed flower, with white tube and scarlet corolla.

GLOXINIA.

Gloxinia (Drummond).—A fine improved variety.

VERBENA.

Clio (G. Smith).—A good-formed flower; colour rose, with primrose eye.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—We have received the schedule of the Stamford Floral and Horticultural Society, and though we generally notice these things on our cover, yet there is somewhat which we would fain preserve. It is this: "The society being desirous to encourage the growth and dissemination of seedling fruits possessing valuable qualities, are prepared to grant handsome rewards to such as shall be found equal in merit to the best of the old sorts. The committee request that the produce of such seedlings, with a sketch of their history, may be transmitted to the exhibition-room by eleven o'clock on the day preceding the exhibition, and the seedlings deemed worthy of remark, will be publicly announced with the other prizes." *This is as it ought to be.* We want more attention paying to seedling fruits. There will be a show at the Crown Inn, Nottingham, for the best bunch of currants—white red, and black. We will give the day in our next number, and if any of our readers will send a few bunches of a seedling fruit of either of the above colours (free by post), which shall beat the bunches then exhibited, we will forward them ten shillings by post office order, or otherwise. We must, however, solicit, like our Stamford friends, a sketch of their history, when and where raised, what raised from, &c. Our only object is to encourage the improvement of this very useful fruit, and if we get a *beat*, we will either buy the stock or find a customer.

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HARDINESS OF ZAUSCHNERIA CALIFORNICA.—Mr. William Allan, writing from the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, to the editor of the *Florist*, states, that two roots, in the open border, without the least protection, had withstood the frosts of last winter very well; and even the delicate shoots emitted this spring had not been affected by the frost, on the 5th of March last.

REVIEWS.

BECK'S FLORIST AND GARDEN MISCELLANY

Is embellished with a coloured figure of *Cattleya spectabilis*, a very beautiful orchid; with a wood-cut of a stand for the exhibition of pansies, and also a pleasing one of the birth-place of the late Charles Fox, Esq. The papers are varied and interesting, comprising, amongst others, Remarks on British Ferns, the Cultivation of the Chinese Primrose, Northern and Southern-raised Flowers, Bedding Calceolarias, &c.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY.

THE third part abounds in coloured figures and wood-cuts. The former are *Geissomera longiflora*, a handsome stove shrub; *Æchmea discolor*, also a brilliant stove plant; *Echeveria retusa*, a succulent greenhouse plant, blooming late, and very pretty; *Pentstemon heterophyllus*, a very handsome perennial herbaceous plant; and *Camellia Drysdalii*, raised at Glasgow, very beautifully formed, deep rose, distinctly striped with white. The wood-cuts are illustrative of Notes on Decorative Gardening, New and Rare Plants, and some pretty Ferns and Orchideous Plants. This is quite equal to the preceding numbers.

[Our publisher does not send us any other floricultural works, or we would gladly notice them.]

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Part III.

QUERIES.

I have charge of a small greenhouse, and have half-a-dozen camellias, which were small and stunted plants when they came under my care, a number of years ago, the wood flower plenty, and I have tried everything in my power to make them grow more luxuriantly, but to no effect. If you will give me a hint in your very useful *Midland Florist*, how to manage this, you will oblige A SUBSCRIBER IN THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Is salt water, fresh from the sea, of use to asparagus? If so, how often should it be used?

WESTERN CORRESPONDENT.

Which is the best season for making beds of violets? What is the difference between Russian and Neapolitan violets? are they quite distinct? WESTERN CORRESPONDENT.

An old friend and admirer wishes to know if you approve of salt water for asparagus beds; how and in what quantities it should be applied. Is nitrate of soda a good manure? how should it be used? and what is it best for? Do you approve of covering the clay in pots of geraniums, and with moss? What had I best do with a plant of oleander? It was struck as a slip, last summer; it is growing in a pot of leaf mould and sand, but does not seem thriving. C. I. P.

A valued correspondent asks, in order that a proper understanding may be arrived at, previous to the great Manchester shows, whether a split petal does not disqualify a stand of tulips.

[As the law stands now, *it does*. Yet judges are placed in a very awkward predicament, for it often happens that this defect is one of *degree;* one petal may have cut another, which takes place very early in the expansion of the flower. This neither detracts from *form*, *purity*, nor *marking;* yet, because an excellent flower has this defect, one every way *worse*, that may have escaped a similar split, is put before it. We certainly think some latitude ought to be given to censors, in this respect; *as they knowing* it to be a defect, ought to give a point or points against the stand. We perhaps may be alone in this opinion, but at all events it is a sincere one; and we would observe, that a cloudy cool day will often increase the difficulty of detecting a cracked petal; and in the case alluded to by our correspondent, we are sure it was not observed by the censors.]

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In answer to H. M. Y., of Oxford, I have to say, that I have used the inks published in the number for July, 1849, and found them to succeed admirably. If H. M. Y. have the article correct, I can only conceive his failure to arise from inattention on his part, in preparing the zinc, viz. in removing the crust from the face of the metal, by rubbing it with a piece of glass paper, so as to produce a clear bright surface, before the application of the ink. DERA.

[We received the chloride of platinum safely, with many thanks.—ED.]

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR MAY.

THIS will be a busy month with those who are anxious to have their gardens filled with what are usually termed bedding plants. Choose, if possible, showery weather for planting out. Those who have grass plots should try the effect of cutting out circles of turf, two feet or a yard in diameter, and if some nice compost, formed of rotten leaves, peat soil, &c. is placed therein, it will be so much the better. Where the subsoil is sandy or gravelly, the beds should be perfectly level. In one of these circles might be placed six or eight plants of *Robinson's Scarlet Defiance Verbena*, in another the same number of plants of *Anagallis Brewerii* (blue), in the next the same number of *Calceolaria amplexicaulis* (yellow), not forgetting beds of *heliotropes*, *scarlet geraniums*, &c. Now these beds we would have within a yard of the gravel path, so that in damp or wet weather their beauty and fragrance may still be enjoyed. One of the greatest blots on a small lawn are beds in the centre, that destroy even what little breadth it has, which ought by all means to be preserved. Do not cut the beds in fantastical shapes. Some people delight in abortions of this kind; but it should always be borne in mind that a selection of nice flowers, their proper grouping, &c. exhibit far more taste in the amateur than a nondescript sort of bed. No one can find fault with a circle, as it is a *perfect figure*, easily made, and easily kept as such, and when well filled with flowers, on a nicely-kept turf, has a most beautiful effect.

Many amateurs take much pains in budding their own *rose stocks*. Those which were done last August, will have made

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considerable growth. A white grub often makes great havoc amongst them, by eating into the pith of the shoot; they must, therefore, be carefully examined, and the insect destroyed. A stick should be tied to the stock, with two bandages, a little below the bud, and as the shoots elongate, they should be attached to this stick, which will prevent them being blown out by rough winds, which is too often the case.

Sweet peas should have neat sticks placed to them; and all *annuals* should be thinned, and if worth while, transplanted.

Tropæoleum canariense, Eccremocarpus scaber, maurandyas, and other half hardy *climbing plants,* should be put out, and as they grow, neatly tied to wire trellises.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

Auriculas, we should suppose, are in some nice sheltered place, where they have bloomed. The heads of seed it will now be important to preserve; and for this end, place beside each plant a small stick, sawn half through, and a square of glass fixed in the space. This keeps off excessive moisture, whilst it allows the benefit of air, &c., and for this purpose is far preferable to a hand-glass. A shady border should be chosen, and a layer of coal ashes placed about a yard wide and a couple of inches thick, on which the pots may be fixed, after repotting the plants. The offsets may also be removed; they will be found with young roots, ready to establish themselves by immediate growth, and if carefully watered and attended to, not one in twenty will fail.

Polyanthuses should be parted, though some prefer a later period, which we have seen attended with very bad success.

Tulips.—The top awning, in southern situations, should be got on in the first week, and in later places, in the second. Side-cloths, if attached, should be kept up as much as possible; in rough winds, or driving rains, they should, of course, be lowered.

Ranunculuses.—If the bed has been well made, and the roots are healthy, they will be covering it with their foliage. Some advocate giving but little water; Messrs. Tyso recommend watering only between the rows; we recollect one of the best growers in Nottinghamshire, who generally had a good bloom, lived on the border of a canal, and was wont to well soak between the rows with water from this source. After a summer's day, it was warm, and the plants throve amazingly with it.

Pinks.—As the flower stems show themselves, nip out those which are not required; these, of course, must be proportioned according to the strength of the plant. A surface-dressing of decayed sheep manure will now be found highly beneficial.

Pansies.—Shade individual blooms, if intended for exhibition. It has been found by experience that an awning is not a good thing. Examine the beds carefully, after dark, with candle and lantern, as earwigs and slugs are apt to make great devastation.

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Dahlias.—Very early planting out is not advisable; they often get so severe a check as to be a long time recovering it. Take care that the piece of ground on which they are to be planted has been well prepared, and that all the snails have been caught by traps laid for them a week or two beforehand. Cabbage leaves, greased with lard, or bran, placed under a tile, are good decoys.

GREENHOUSE.

Keep down insects with Brown's fumigator, a capital thing, noticed this month, in our record. *Cinerarias* and *calceolarias* are especially subject to their attacks. These plants will require a good supply of water while blooming. *Fuchsias* also must be attended to in this respect; an occasional dose of liquid manure may be administered, but not too strong. Turn out into the borders old stocky plants of *geraniums*. Those retained in the house should be now and then turned, as they are apt to become one-sided. Remove dead leaves, and as the early-blooming varieties go out of flower, cut them down, and put in the cuttings, in the open border, exposed to the full sun, without hand-glass or protection: they will soon root.

It will be advisable to reserve some few *verbenas*, to grow in pots, in the house; they flower nicely, if kept near the glass, and judiciously stopped.

Balsams should be repotted, and all the first blooms removed. They make a fine show in the summer months.

VEGETABLES.

Onions should be well thinned out and hoed on Mr. Barnes's plan, with crane-necked hoes.

Lettuces.—Plant out on well-prepared ground, watering in dry weather, which will prevent, in some measure, the plants running to seed.—(See notice of some good lettuces, in this number)

Carrots.—Thin out early, and hoe between the drills, when the foliage meets, they will require no more attention.

Cabbage.—As the hearts are cut, divest the stems of the lower leaves; they will then emit shoots, and if these are reduced to one or two, they will make a very nice crop of hearts for autumn.

Kidney Beans.—If not already sown, both runners and dwarfs had better be got in. The scarlets may either be made to run up sticks, as pyramids, or be sown in rows. In the latter case, they had better be planted on the north side of the garden.

Plant out plenty of *Brussels sprouts*, *broccoli*, &c.; and succession crops of *lettuce*, *turnip radishes*, *turnips*, &c.

As a general rule, keep the soil well stirred between growing crops; and as soon as one is over, manure the land, and get in another.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

AN IMPROVED MODE OF GROWING CELERY.

VERY much, of late, has been interspersed through the pages of the *Midland Florist* respecting the various varieties and methods of growing the above vegetable, and as I perceive none like a process of management I suggested to a friend, who has the opportunity of fully proving anything novel in the way of vegetable cultivation, I wish, for the benefit of those who have to produce the article for their employers, at an early period, to detail the particulars of our experiment, which I hope will prove interesting and useful to any one feeling disposed to give the system a trial.

The plants practised upon, were Cole's Dwarf Red, Manchester Giant, and Seymour's White—one row of each. They were sown on heat, in February, and forwarded after the manner of Cole's, until the first week in May, at which time they were six inches high, and strong plants. During the time the plants were making their progress, we had the trenches excavated to the depth of twenty inches, and two feet six inches in extreme width of the top spit; then the remaining spit, in the centre, one foot six inches in width. In the bottom of it we had placed three inches of red loam, from an adjoining arable field, which was not overabundant in richness, but suited our purpose admirably. Our idea, in placing this at the bottom, was, that as the garden was of a sandy texture, it would act as a *saveall*, if I may be allowed the term, in holding or detaining the more solid particles of the liquid manure, which might be applied from time to time, for the roots to prey upon;

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whereas, had we not done so, we should inevitably have lost it all, by the under sandy filtration. We have observed, these last few days, that our idea was perfectly correct, as Professor Way has, the last month, proved very satisfactorily to the Agricultural Society of England, this important fact, from experiments with many varieties of liquid manure. (For minute particulars, see *Gardener's Chronicle.)* After this, we had put in four inches of half-rotten pig manure (three parts droppings to one of litter) and three-year-old well-decomposed cow dung, in equal quantities, previously well mixed together; and three inches of sandy mould and leaf mould, in equal proportions, on the top. The plants were set ten inches apart, and in a very short period, to the surprise of all who saw them, made a foot in height, which we effected by having constructed some span glass hand-lights, six feet long, three feet broad, and one foot six inches in central height. We had six in number, for three trenches, twelve feet long each; they had handles at each end, the ends being plain wood, two inches thick, and the rest of the same style as hotbed lights, to let the rain run off. They were glazed with rough plate, and were used immediately the plants were put in, to produce onward growth, and shade from the sun. The plants made rapid growth, by the use of the frame. As last summer was very dry, they required much watering; and to increase their facility in growing, we applied the chemical agent used for unions (named in vol. 2), which appeared to push them amazingly, and nothing could be more healthy. After arriving at a foot high, we had them well soaked with liquid manure, from the house cesspool and cattle tank, with one-third of rain water mixed. We then placed in the bottom of the trenches four inches in thickness of small pebbles, the size of walnuts, which served for the first earthing up. As a matter of course, the plants were trimmed of side shoots, before placing the pebbles, hoeing, &c. We still used the lights for shade, gave

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air daily, and exposed them on dull and rainy days. This went on for a fortnight, till the 13th of June, when we earthed them up in the old way, with the exception of putting "Roberts" tubes over them, the lower ends of which rested on the pebbles, and the plants reached just four inches and a half above the upper ends. We fixed two distinct tubes from the rest at each end, for the purpose of pouring down rain water and liquid manure, after being earthed up; and our motive in placing the pebbles was to allow the water to get free access to every root individually, which it did with the desired effect, and very first-rate celery was produced from the process. After it was earthed the second time, the glasses were gradually removed, and it was left to itself in the usual way. By the 13th of July it was ready for use, beautifully crisp and sweet, about four inches in thickness (diameter), two feet six inches and a half in length, and the eatable portion about nineteen inches. The Manchester Red grew the tallest, and Seymour's White more regular with Cole's Red. None of them showed signs of running to seed from this usage, as the season was so very sunny; to which we attribute our success in bringing the plants to maturity so early, as there is no doubt that in dull weather they would not advance so quickly. It will be perceived that the above method of producing celery is expensive, as it requires the use of materials which are costly. Though the frames are here named for celery, yet they will do admirably for sheltering cauliflowers and early lettuce, in the winter, &c. My friend was offered sixpence per stick for his celery, the last week in July, by a near nobleman, for a fashionable dinner party, and six heads, which he sold to him, he boastingly presented to his guests, expressing his surprise at making use of it so early, much to the dislike of his own gardener.

We are making new experiments with broccoli and cabbage, and will, in due time, send you the results. I fear I am trespassing upon your pages,

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but I wished to explain all the particulars, some of which are of important interest, and will, I hope, be perceived by the discerning reader.

A LOVER OF GOOD CELERY.

Near Grantham.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Lord Collingwood (Strong).—Fourth row bizarre. The true or fine one should have a violet beam, the centre of the beam being two or three shades lighter, thereby giving it a transparent appearance. There is no mistaking the two sorts, the other being fully flamed and rather coarse; they are both tricolors, with yellow primrose ground. £3 3s. (The late raiser at one time demanded £30.)

Drinkwater's Rose.—First row. Declared by some to be a superior Fleur des Dames.

Walworth (Groom).—Fourth-row rose. In one season the majority flamed, in another the majority feathered, and occasionally rather full; unsteady, when the bulb is aged. 2s. 6d.

Triomphante Cramoisi.—Second or third-row rose. Brilliant red flame, a sporter, and frequently unclean, but when caught fine, rather taking.

Oliver Twist (Groom).—Second row; ground straw, in a warm season will bleach; the marking a combination of Imperatrice de Maroc and Strong's Rainbow, which are both byblœmens; it may consequently be called of intermediate character, nevertheless attractive, and away from the general description of tricolor bizarres. 5s.

Izaak Walton (Lawrence).—Third-row bizarre. Good ground, well-marked flame of a lively brown, sometimes very rich, a strong bulb, will go fourth row, worthy a place in any bed. £2 2s.

Grande Rose Imperiale.—Second or third row. Well-marked flame when in character, sometimes fine with feather, rather unsteady. 2s. 6d.

Marcellus (Lawrence).—Second-row bizarre. The original and true one is bright lemon ground, a well-marked flame, and very steady. It is contra-distinguished from Brown's, which is in the way of his Hamlet, &c. £2 2s.

La Vandikken.—Well known to most growers. Flamed, with a little feathering occasionally. To my fancy, this is a good fourth-row rose, and three or four would not be too many in a large collection. 10s. 6d.

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Telemachus (Clark).—First or second-row bizarre. In its best character, a very dark flame and feather almost black. I had a bulb that never varied for seven years, black feathering only; it threw but one offset during that time, which eventually bloomed, and both that and its parent were dead at the taking up. I have therefore lost the constant strain. £1.

Cassius (Clark).—Highly-coloured first-row bizarre. The base decidedly bad.

Sempronius (Strong).—First or second-row byblœmen. Delicate violet flower, the cup rather long.

Duke of Northumberland (Glenny).—Third-row byblœmen, of singular character. A well-marked flame, the colour a nondescript dark and curious violet. This flower is sure to attract the eye in the bed. With Lawrence, £5 5s.

COPPICEANA.

No. V.

We well know that many of our readers, who are not particularly attached to florists' flowers, are always glad to run over this article; and though it may take a considerable time to tell them what we have, yet they must bear in mind that if our space is not great, we endeavour to make it contain as much practical matter as possible. We have got through plants commencing with A, and now begin with

Berberis.

Some botanists have divided this family: for though the flowers have the same characteristics, the general appearance of the plants are widely different; therefore the simple-leaved varieties have retained the old designation, and are called Berberis. The ash, or compound-leaved sorts, have been termed Mahonias. We do not at any time advocate *splitting straws*, and throwing impediments in the way of learners, but the habits of the plants are so decided, that any one at all conversant with botany, would identify the two at a glance. We will talk about the Mahonias first.

Mahonia Elegans.—This we received a few years ago, from Messrs. Fisher, Holmes, & Co. of Handsworth, and it appears

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closely related to M. fasicularis hybrida. It is now (April 24) in great beauty. Its habit is strong and erect, but the shoots are clothed with whorles of yellow flowers from one end to the other, and are extremely handsome. Plants, 2s. 6d. each.

M. Aquifolia.—A really good evergreen, will grow in very shady situations, forming a compact bush, with ashlike, dark, and shining leaves. The blooms are produced in bunches, and are succeeded by black berries. Seedlings are now raised so easily that the plant is getting a drug in most nurseries, though we should say, for filling up blanks in shrubberies, for putting in shady situations, where box or privet have something to do to live, this plant is admirably adapted; to say nothing of its beautiful flowers, thus far eclipsing the two previously-mentioned varieties; and nothing is better for undergrowth in plantations. Plants may now be had at 3d. to 6d. each, and where a thousand are taken together, for considerably less money.

M. Fascicularis.—More tender than the preceding, and the foliage also is more glaucous. A fine variety, but in the midland counties would require a conservative wall. This is not so much to be regretted now we have the hybrid or cross-bred varieties, which partake greatly of the character of this sort, but are more hardy. Plants worth from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. each.

M. Repens. (The Creeping-rooted Ash-leaved Berberry.)—This variety is remarkable for throwing out long underground shoots; the leaves also are more obtuse, or blunt, than the others; neither does it shine like the Aquifolia, and in autumn turns a purple crimson. It is a nice sort, forming a dense low bush. Price, 6d. to 1s.

M. Fortunii.—Discovered and introduced from China by Mr. Fortune, whence its name. It has also pinnate leaves, but more slender in all their parts than the preceding. We have not yet seen it flower. It has stood the winter tolerably well with us. Rather scarce as yet. Plants 3s. 6d. to 5s. each.

M. Tenuifolia. (The Slender-leaved Mahonia.)—This is elegant, but tender. We have had it several times, and been unable to keep it; in the midland and northern counties, it should have a similar situation to M. fascicularis.

We now come to the Berberis (strictly so called), with their simple foliage.

The B. Purpurea, or *Purple-leaved Berberry* is not evergreen, the leaves falling in winter, but they are dark purple, like the Purple-leaved Beech; the flowers are deep yellow, or orange, forming a beautiful and unique bush. Raised by layers of the previous year's wood. Plants 1s. each.

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Berberis Dulcis. (The Sweet-fruited Berberry.)—One of the most beautiful evergreens possible; its long slender branches, gently curving, are covered with dark green boxlike leaves, and when in flower, myriads of pendent orange bells hang down from the under side. It lasts long in flower. Its fruit, however, is not sweet; they are round black berries, about the size of peas. It may be raised either by layers of the old or previous year's shoots, or by seed. Plants a foot high 6d. to 9d. each.

Berberis Dulcis Tortuosa.—A seminal variety of the preceding, with the foliage rather twisted. Our plant appears to have larger flowers, which are also closer on the stem than in the species. It was raised by Mr. F. Fox, of Cliff Vale, near Leek. Plants 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. each.

Berberis Empetrifolia.—A really beautiful evergreen berberry, with heathlike leaves. The flowers are like those of the preceding, except being much smaller in every respect. We have seen it trained to a small trellis, with very good effect; also to neat sticks. It is also adapted for rockwork, throwing out its slender weeping branches. This is likewise raised by seed and layers, but the former method is most frequently adopted. Plants are worth 1s. each.

Berberis Aristata is a subevergreen of very robust habit. The flowers are produced in great profusion. The back part of shrubberies is the most suitable place for it. Plants 1s. each.

We also grow Berberis Asiatica, somewhat like the preceding; and Berberis cuncata, with awl-shaped leaves. They have not yet bloomed with us.

FANNY KEMBLE TULIP.

YOUR respected correspondent, Mr. Davidson, having, in the last number of the *Midland Florist*, requested me to favour the tulip world with a few remarks on that much-abused, though innocent tulip, Fanny Kemble, I cannot but comply with his wishes, subject, of course, to your kind permission. Among the many of its libels, I have heard it has been said to be a *very delicate* little flower. I have heard that many have said that they possess it; also that many have said that they have broken it, not one of whom, I believe, would have been able to have pointed it out in my collection. I have even seen Fair Helen

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(the dirty rose) catalogued at a sale for Fanny—TRUE, and sold for it. I have lately read that it is surpassed in ALL its properties. I do not say that this is impossible, but certainly not very probable. However, I confess that this is the first time I have ever known it has been said to be unclean—by what *good judges* I am not personally at all anxious to know; but Mr. D. may some day think it would be for the *benefit* of the fancy were their names and *good judgment* chronicled together. Nevertheless. I am much pleased to find she has a champion in Mr. D. who has said truly respecting the blooms he saw; and I thank him for so doing. Doubtless most of the tulip fanciers who are readers of your book are acquainted with, or grow, most of the tulips named by Mr. Clark;—allow me to ask them the names of his unclean ones (for I confess I am not acquainted with them), and if it is reasonable to suppose that his pet flower would have been unclean? or that either Mr. Davy or myself would have given so high a price for a flower with such a blemish, which had it possessed, no other beauties could (in my opinion, and I am sure in theirs also) at all have compensated for? With your permission, I will relate a little anecdote, not known, I believe, to many of the present fancy, and to which, possibly, Mr. D. and your readers may find some resemblance. It is, that when the late Mr. Lawrence broke his beautiful flower, Polyphemus, several of the leading fanciers of the day pronounced it neither more nor less than a fine break of Charbonnier, and persisted in calling it so for some time; but when Mr. L. disposed of a certain number of roots, the same fanciers eagerly purchased it, and from that day Polyphemus ceased to be an old Charbonnier, and became what, in my opinion, it deserved to be, the finest bizarre of the day. I will now, to the best of my ability, give my humble opinion of the merits of Fanny, viz. a free and most healthy grower, a good third-row flower; a beautiful and finely-formed

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cup, without any curving inwards at top; the base or bottom broad, and perfectly white and clean in any state. I know of no flower possessing either its *lovely white* or *dense black*, both of which come into the bloom the moment it begins to expand. In short, in my humble opinion, and I say it after much consideration, I know not where I would improve *Fanny, in her best clothes.* I trust the foregoing will be satisfactory to those of your readers who may have been doubtful; and in conclusion, allow me to apologize for trespassing so long.

JOHN GOLDHAM.

Rose Cottage, Forrest Hill, Sydenham,
April 23, 1850.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

RUBUS MACROCARPUS. *(The Large-fruited Bramble.)*—This has been brought from the mountainous parts of Columbia, and has red flowers and very large fruit. We have not heard that it has reached England yet, but it is in some of the continental collections.

A new strawberry, raised from seed of the British Queen, and reported to be of very delicious flavour, has been produced at Ghent, Belgium. A specimen measured two inches through. It is called QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS, and is said to excel the British Queen in its more abundant productiveness, and is

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equal to it in colour. Now we think Kitley's Goliath will beat them both, being of excellent flavour, and, what is very desirable, of a beautiful colour and immense size.

In the annals of the Ghent Horticultural Society mention is made of a very large new pear. The tree, in 1848, produced forty pears, weighing, on an average, three pounds each. It is very properly named GEANT DE BASELE (Giant of Basele), Basele, in Belgium, being the place where it has fruited. It will most likely prove a very valuable baking pear. We really wonder that baked pears are not more generally used than they are, being most wholesome.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

The Clianthus punicens, or Glory Pea, has now been introduced into this country some years, and when well grown, is a very splendid plant. At the Horticultural Society's meeting, April 16, Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter, exhibited a new and very fine species, which has been named CLIANTHUS FORMOSUS. It had brilliant crimson flowers, which are produced in large quantities. It is possible that this fine plant would flourish well on a conservative wall, in the open air.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—Scarlet geraniums are now becoming of almost endless variety, but this appears to be one of the best sorts in cultivation. The foliage is very nicely variegated, the heads of bloom are large, and there appears to be great endurance in the flowers, which are a fine orange scarlet.

CEREUS LEANUS.—An upright-growing round-stemmed variety of the cactus tribe, with deep pink flowers. It has bloomed in the nursery of Messrs. Lee, of Hammersmith, and is a very nice thing.

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SALTER'S CLEMENTINE.—A very beautiful seedling cineraria, white, tipped with crimson purple, and dark centre. The Royal South London Floricultural Society awarded it a first-class certificate, and also an extra prize.

HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

DELPHINEUM MAGNIFICUM.—We had a bloom of this fine seedling submitted to us for our approval, and we considered it a great acquisition. The habit is dwarf, and the flowers single and of a brilliant and striking blue.

EPIMEDIUM COLCHICUM.—A very pretty hardy plant, with yellow flowers. All the tribe are interesting, but this is one of the best.

CHERIANTHUS MARSHALLIANUS.—This we have bloomed, and it proves to be a most delightful dwarf herbaceous plant. The flowers individually are about the size of a sixpence, but they are produced in large heads; the colour approximates that of the Erysimum Peroffskyanum, being a rich salmon. It will prove invaluable for bedding purposes.

POTENTILLA DAVESII.—A very pretty dwarf variety of now a numerous family. It does not throw out straggling stems, as many of them do, but holds its flowers compactly together; they are deep pink, with a darker shade at the lower part of the petals.

MIMULUS RUBINUS.—This we have also bloomed, and find it one of the handsomest of the family. The colour is rich crimson and yellow; the crimson forms a continuous belt of about equal thickness round the divisions of the corolla (or flower), the other part being yellow. The throat is slightly spotted with crimson.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR JUNE.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

THE operations of this month will be very similar to the preceding one. The weather being sultry, the cuttings will require closer attention; and the first thing to be done on observing a fine flower in the seedling bed, should be to put in a few cuttings; as we have shown how little notice a plant gives before it dies, during the heat of May and June. Plants that appear to be full of health and vigour in the morning, will be down before midday, as if they had been severed with a knife. On examining them, it will be found that the spine is black and diseased to the extremity of the shoots. Many fine seedlings have been lost for the want of this precaution. Examine the choice kinds, and gather what seed is sufficiently ripe, or the sparrows will very likely save you that trouble. When gathered, it should be placed so that it can be covered with glass or thin canvass; otherwise, at the bursting of the pods, many good seeds will be lost. Of course it must not be covered down air-tight, as it will require all the air it can have, to ripen and dry it off.

ON FORCING SEA-KALE.

BY R. ERRINGTON.

THE following is a mode of forcing that useful vegetable, sea-kale, which, in my opinion, merits general adoption. I am aware that it is not altoge-

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ther novel, yet it is not sufficiently known, and in recommendation of it, I only add, that by it I have had a continual supply, without a single day's intermission, since the middle of last November, and that of the very best quality.

I force it in the mushroom house, and to obtain a supply of roots, I plant four rows in the open ground, every spring. My rows are sixty feet long, three feet apart, and fifteen inches between the plants in the row. It, of course, receives proper cultivation in this stage, the plants having been raised from seed the year previous, in a single drill. The roots are taken up for forcing as soon as the leaves are decaying, and with much care, and as much as possible taken up entire, as the root is, of course, a magazine of nourishment for the incipient bud. The main stock is then "laid by the heels," and covered with litter, till wanted. In my mushroom house, I have a pit or trench, sunk below the level of the floor line about four feet. This furnishes room, in the length of the house, for about four successive ages, and I introduce the second lot of roots the moment the first begins to bud, and so on with the rest. I place fermenting matter, viz. dung and leaves mixed, about two feet six inches deep, under the roots, taking care to have bottom heat enough, as if that becomes too hot, I can easily reduce the heat with water, and the more water the sea-kale receives in this way, the more tender it becomes. I place the roots in this fermenting matter as thick as they will stand, merely flooding in some fine old tan, or rich soil, with water, to fill the crevices between the roots completely. The surface of the crowns, when so placed, is a foot, or nearly so, below the floor line; and when planted, a row of trusses of straw is placed side by side, over the whole, to shut in the steam and keep it completely dark, which is one of the main points, and with the straw and the shutters is completely effected.

In the same house, I produce a continual supply of chicory, rhubarb, and lily of the valley, in pots,

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by the same system, besides various other things which, in emergencies, find a refuge there.

April 4th.

Loudon's Magazine of Gardening.

CULTURE OF THE CHILIAN ALSTRŒMERIA.

[*From the Gardener's Chronicle.*]

NOTHING whatever presents more ornament to our gardens, during a great portion of the year, than this beautiful production, whose flowers are at once so numerous and so splendid, and yet nothing can be more easy than its culture and multiplication. The thousand varied, but always charming, tints, which tinge the corollas (flowers) of these alstrœmerias, present a difficulty in establishing a just horticultural nomenclature for them, as, like their brilliant rivals, the calceolarias, they would defy, on that point, the most rigid examination. One may affirm, without exaggeration, that all are beautiful, and one may also infer that they will soon become as popular as the wallflower, the mignonette, the carnation, &c.; in fact, cut for nosegays, to grace the various apartments of the house, no other flowers can be compared with them.

The length, thickness, and number of their fascircled roots, hinder them from flourishing under pot-culture; they succeed best in the open ground, in the free air, which, if subjected to the following treatment, they can brave with impunity. A bed is dug about fourteen inches deep, in length and breadth proportioned to the number of roots required to be planted, at a foot apart, from heel to heel; the bottom of the trench must be filled with rubble of potsherds, fragments of bricks, tiles, &c. in order to permit a prompt and easy drainage. It is then filled with a rich compost, formed of one-third fresh loam, one-third sandy bog earth, and one-third spit dung, and

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some such strong manure as guano may be added, in the proportion of one-thirtieth of the whole mass. The whole is to be mixed well together, and left in heaps, about two months before making use of it.

Each rhizome (root) is planted in the month of October, taking care that its growing point is ten inches below the surface of the soil. On the frost becoming severe, the bed is covered with a frame-work, and surrounded by mulch; the air being abundantly admitted whenever the thermometer is not below thirty degrees Fahr. We have, however, known the cold to descend to twenty-five degrees, and the roots not to be injured thereby.

As long as the severe frost lasts, the frame is covered with litter or straw, which is removed at all times when the plants can enjoy the benefits of the sun's rays. So soon as the cold is no longer to be dreaded, the above protections are removed, and the plants, whose shoots are already apparent, are left perfectly free to all atmospheric influences, and finally treated like other perennials. They must be very sparingly watered during the ripening of the seed, and should great rains follow after the seeds are gathered, they must be protected by the frames, to prevent the rot. The roots are to be taken up towards the end of July, and the rhizomes cleaned and separated; afterwards they may be left exposed on shelves, in a very airy dry place, until the moment of replanting.

LOUIS VAN HOUTTE.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF THE CALCEOLARIA.

About the middle of July, when the plants have done flowering, preparation should be made for propagating the different kinds—the herbaceous by dividing the roots, the shrubby by cuttings. The plants should be encouraged in their growth a short

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time previous to this operation, by judicious watering, picking off the remaining flowers, and allowing the stems to die down, that no nourishment may escape. A little of the old soil should be removed, and a top-dressing of fresh compost added, in which the shoots will readily take root. Those shoots which do not touch the soil, require to be pegged down.

The cuttings from the shrubby sorts should be struck singly, in small sixties, in a frame, with a gentle bottom heat, kept shaded, and rather sparingly watered. When rooted, air may be more freely admitted, and the plants gradually hardened. As soon as the roots appear through the soil, they will require shifting into forty-eights, and to be placed in a house where they may receive plenty of top-air—side-air and draughts being prejudicial to the free growth of the calceolaria. When the sun bears considerable power, the plants should remain on the shady side of the greenhouse. The temperature should be from forty-five to fifty degrees.

About the beginning of September, those plants which are growing vigorously will require shifting into larger pots; and when large specimen plants are required, this process should be repeated as often as the pots are filled with roots. Liberal drainage should at all times be given, and regular watering carefully attended to, never allowing the pots to get dry. The decaying leaves should be removed, for if suffered to remain upon the plants they cause mildew, and much injury ensues. The plants require to be frequently examined, to watch for the appearance of the green fly; and when discovered, a check should be put to their increase by well fumigating the plants, and repeating the operation, if the first is not effective, as it is difficult to dislodge these pests from the young and downy leaves. The house should be frequently steamed by damping the flues, as the calceolaria thrives best in a moist atmosphere. During the winter months, the plants must be removed to the south side of the house, to receive all

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the light possible, and prevent their being drawn up weakly. This treatment is continued till the beginning of March, when a gentle watering over the heads, with a fine rose, or syringe, will prove very beneficial. As the power of the sun begins to increase, and the flowers approach their blooming season, it will be necessary either to shade the plants or remove them to the north side of the house; for if suffered to remain in the sun, and allowed to become dry, the plants will be forced prematurely into bloom, before attaining a desirable height and size. When the flower stems begin to rise, training should commence, and a stick be put to each shoot, that it may rise in its proper place, and assist in forming a regular head of bloom. A supply of liquid manure, twice a week, will give additional strength to the plants, and cause the flowers to expand freely. The compost for calceolarias should be the following:—One barrowful of loam, one ditto of bog earth, one ditto cow dung: for the winter potting, an additional half-barrowful of bog earth may be used, for which, in spring, a half-barrowful of loam should be substituted.

Gardener's Chronicle.

ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF FRUITS.

Some species of tree, indeed, seem to refuse to yield their wild nature, never producing any variation by seed; but all fruit-trees, and many others, are easily *domesticated,* and more readily take the impress of culture.

If we sow a quantity of seed of the common black Mazzard cherry (Cerasus avium) in garden soil, we shall find, that in the leaves and habit of growth, many of the seedlings do not entirely resemble the original species, and when they come into bearing, it is probable we shall find as great a diversity in the

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size, colour, and flavour of the fruit. Each of these individual plants differing from the original type (the Mazzard), constitutes a new *variety*, though only a few—perhaps only one, may be superior to the original species.

It is worthy of remark, that exactly in proportion as this reproduction is frequently repeated, is the change to a great variety of forms, or new sorts, increased. It is likely, indeed, that to gather the seeds from a wild Mazzard in the woods, the instances of departure from the form of the original species would be very few, while, if gathered from a garden-tree, itself sometime cultivated, or several removes from a wild state, though still a Mazzard, the seedlings will show great variety of character.

Once in the possession of a *variety* which has *moved out* of the natural, into a more domesticated form, we have in our hands the best material for the improving process. The fixed original habit of the species is broken in upon, and this variety which we have created has always afterwards some tendency to make further departure from the original form. It is true that all, or most of its seedlings will still retain a likeness to the parent, but a few will differ in some respects, and it is by seizing upon those which show symptoms of variation, that the improver of vegetable races founds his hopes.

We have said that it is a part of the character of a species to produce the same from seed. This characteristic is retained even when the *sport* (as gardeners term it) into numberless varieties is greatest: thus, to return to cherries, the Kentish, or common pie-cherry, is one species, and the small black Mazzard another: and although a great number of varieties of each of the species have been produced, yet there is always the likeness of the species retained. From the first we may have the large and rich May Duke, and from the last, the sweet and luscious Black Hearts; but a glance will show us that the Duke cherries retain the distinct dark foliage, and in the

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fruit something of the same flavour, shape, and colour of the original species; and the Heart cherries the broad leaves and lofty growth of the Mazzard. So, too, the currant and gooseberry are different species of the same genus; but though the English gooseberry growers have raised thousands of new varieties of this fruit, and shown them as large as hen-eggs, and of every variety of form and colour, yet their efforts with the gooseberry have not produced anything resembling the common currant.

Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.

PLANT-POTTING.

To understand plant-potting thoroughly, so as to be quite capable of applying the materials used in this common, but too often imperfectly-performed operation, is abstractedly the practical solution of plant-growing. Science cannot reach this alone. Practice, founded upon a physiological knowledge of the wants of plants, and a kind of finger-and-thumb mode of supplying those wants, will enable us pretty clearly to comprehend it.

Different kinds of plants require different soils. A Cape heath, for example, must have peat; whereas, a pelargonium requires loam. Notwithstanding this difference in soil, they must be both potted so that water will pass freely through the whole body of earth in the pot. Hence, if water circulates unobstructedly through the entire mass of earth in which the plant is growing, and the superfluous water escapes with perfect freedom at the bottom of the pot, so air, in like manner, will diffuse itself spontaneously amongst the roots, and a healthy and vigorous action will thus rapidly proceed.

The moment any circumstance arises to prevent the water from filtering through the soil, that moment air ceases to penetrate the ball, and the death-

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knell of the plant is rung, or, in first-rate cultivation, what is tantamount to it, the plant stands between life and death. In potting, therefore, it will be tolerably apparent, that water and air must be supplied to each fibre, not only at the outside of the ball of earth, but through every part of it. The first important consideration deducible from the foregoing remarks, which presents itself, will be, that plants are either killed with too much water immediately surrounding the roots, or that, in consequence of a defective potting, water never penetrates through the ball, so that every rootlet may be regularly supplied. Practice, however limited, will have presented numerous examples of this, and likewise of plants suffering from an over-abundant supply. It may not, however, be so clearly understood that the plant is suffering from a two-fold cause, viz., the over-supply of moisture retained in the ball from defective draining, as well as defective potting. Thus, the water which is prevented passing off freely, occupies every crevice, to the total exclusion of the natural atmosphere—the great and essential aliment of vegetable structure. Plants, therefore, embodied in the practical operation of potting, so necessary and important are they, that the commonest plant under our care is largely influenced by the right application of these simple, but all-important considerations, which, when rightly understood, and closely adhered to, will do much to regenerate the whole system of plant-growing. The unnatural position of a plant in a pot, in the first place—and our complete ignorance, or disregard, of this fact, without corresponding efforts to overcome the difficulties which this position naturally creates—has entailed upon the mere machine, in the shape of a gardener, all those evils which stare him in the face day after day, and year after year, to no purpose. Verily, unless it be personal violence, or the loss of a situation that may rouse his energies to lift his eyelids, nothing else will. Happily, these strictures cannot be applied to a vast number of my brother gardeners, who

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are fully alive to the importance of this inquiry, and who tarry not by the way side, but have trimmed their lamps, and buckled on their armour, determining to go on conquering and to conquer.

Gardener's Chronicle.

HINTS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF PEACHES AND NECTARINES.

MAIDEN plants should always be chosen, as they may be trained in any way the purchaser pleases. The stock should have a clear stem, with but few knots in it, or it will never swell out well; and it ought to be budded from three feet to three feet and a half high, according to the height of the wall against which the tree is to be placed; if budded lower, those branches near the ground become covered in the winter with wet and dirt, which causes the bark to crack, and the branches to decay. If the tree is budded high enough, the branches will radiate in every direction, and those that descend will be as fruitful as those that are horizontal or perpendicular, and no part of the wood will suffer, excepting the ends of the descending branches, which may be shortened during the winter pruning, and they will again fill the wall the following season. After the trees are planted, the heads must be cut back to nine inches or a foot, according to the strength of the plant. During the following summer, the branches should be trained about six or eight inches apart, and pruned the succeeding winter, to make them produce double the number of shoots the next year; and this system should be pursued till the tree contains a sufficient number of branches. When these have acquired their full length, the extremities will be about ten or twelve inches apart. On the upper side of each principal branch train, in the summer, shoots at about six inches apart, and the following winter cut every other one

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back to the bud next the principal, to make wood the next summer. In the winter, the bearing wood of the preceding summer should be pruned back to the nearest bud to the principal branch, shortening the summer shoot as before. If aphides appear in the spring, syringe the trees with tobacco water, when the sun is shining upon them, two or three times during the season. If red spider infest the plants, wash them with sulphur and water, mixed to the same consistency as the thin paint used for mildew. The borders should be ten or twelve feet wide, and two or three feet deep, well drained, and consist of turfy loam, manure, and leaf-mould. They ought not to be dug more than eight inches deep, and should be but little cropped. The coping on the wall should be raised a little on one side, so that the water may be carried off in spouts; and if these spouts are on the south side, a rod may be fixed to suspend a covering to protect the blossoms from the spring frosts. The best kinds of peaches are the Royal George, Bellegrade or Galande, Noblesse, Late Chancellor, Late Admirable, Late Catherine, Grosse Mignonne, Royal Charlotte, and Barrington. The nectarines best worth cultivating are, Elruge, Violette Hative, Early Newington, New White, Hurst's Early Tawney, Pitmaston Orange, and Brugnon.

Gardener's Chronicle.

ON THE CULTURE OF LISIANTHUS RUSSELLIANUS.

BY J. GREEN, C.M.H.S.

This beautiful and much-esteemed plant was introduced into this country in 1835, from Mexico. Being found to be capable of producing ripe seed in abundance, a large stock of plants was soon diffused amongst our best cultivators, who hailed it with delight. Nevertheless, strange to say, its successful cultivation, except in a few instances, still remains a

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desideratum—a fact amply proved by the paucity of really well-cultivated plants produced at our great metropolitan exhibitions.

Having been somewhat more successful than some of my neighbours in growing and flowering this plant, truly magnificent when well managed, I will give my plan, which is as follows:—I sow early in spring; I first fill a six-inch pot half full of potsherds, over which I place one inch of sphagnum moss; I then fill the pot within one inch of the top with rich light sandy soil. When all is pressed down equal and firm, and a smooth surface made with the bottom of a small pot, I sow the seed, and cover it very slightly with dry white sand. I cover the pots with bell-glasses, and place them on a shelf, in a shady part of an early vinery, keeping the surface constantly moist by pouring water on the outside of the glasses. As soon as the plants have come up, air is admitted, and increased as they advance in growth. When sufficiently strong, they are pricked out into small pots, having the same drainage, moss, and mixture as the seed-pots, and are again shaded with hand or bell-glasses, until the plants become established. In three weeks or a month they require to be potted off singly into small pots; and I encourage their growth as much as possible, by placing them in a shady part of either a vinery or melon pit, whichever is kept at the highest temperature, with a humid atmosphere. As soon as they begin to fill their pots with roots, I give them once a week a little clarified manure water.

I repot into winter pots, about the middle of August, using pots to suit the size of the plants, and replacing them in the same growing temperature as before, till their pots are filled with roots. After this, I begin to prepare them for winter, by giving them less moisture, more air, and a cooler temperature; and finally they are placed on a shelf, near the glass, in the coolest part of the stove, and wintered rather dry. Early in February, I begin to increase the heat and moisture; and as soon as they begin to grow

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freely, I repot them, which is generally about the second week in March. They receive another shift in April, and those that are intended for large specimens, a third, in May, using eighteen or twenty-inch pots, and a mixture consisting of equal quantities of good strong maiden loam, peat or bog mould, burnt clay, leaf mould, and cow manure, with a little white sand. These materials are well mixed together, and if dry, are moistened, to prevent them running too close in the pots. In potting, I use a large quantity of drainage, and plenty of rubble stones, small potsherds, and coarse river sand amongst the mixture. I make the mixture just firm, but am very careful to keep it quite porous. I give very little water till the roots reach the sides of the pots: it is increased as the plants and the season advance, giving heat and moisture in proportion. Too much stress cannot be put upon making a proper mechanical arrangement of rich, porous, and well-drained soils, which are essential for the healthy development of plants of the nature of the Lisianthus.

When the young shoots are sufficiently advanced, I stop them immediately above the second joint; each shoot will then produce four; they require stopping about three times. The last stopping for plants required to bloom early should take place in the first week in June, and for plants required to bloom later, the first week in July. As they advance in growth, the branches will be required to be tied out with sticks, to make round and well-formed plants.

When the plants are growing freely, they are sometimes attacked with a disease at the base, which is produced by the moist and confined atmosphere that is required for their fine growth. To prevent this, I allow the surface to become dry once a week, during which the plants are supplied with moisture from feeders or pans, in which the pots are placed for a few hours, being careful not to allow any stagnant water to remain about them. As soon as the blooms begin to expand, I keep a drier atmosphere,

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and expose them to more air and light, which much improves their colour.

As to the result of the above practice, I may mention, in conclusion, that I grew some seedling plants in 1844, one of which I exhibited at the Horticultural Society's Garden, in July, 1845, which was awarded a silver Knightian medal, accompanied with this note by the judges:—"Had this been exhibited in its proper place, it would have received a higher medal." In July, 1846, a second plant received a large silver medal; and to a third, the same award was made in July, 1847. Another plant was also shown in the same year, at the Royal Botanic Society's Garden, Regent's Park, and was awarded the first prize as a single specimen of superior cultivation. The plant that I exhibited at the Horticultural Society, in 1847, had five hundred blooms expanded at once, ten days after the exhibition.

Journal of the Horticultural Society.

At a meeting of several of the Oxford florists, held on the 14th of May, 1850, it was unanimously agreed, that in the opinion of the persons present, the system lately adopted of showing pinks, carnations, and picotees on cards, is contrary to the true interests of the growers of the above flowers; that the various defects, such as split petals, the quartering of the blooms, down flowers, false pods, and petals partly eaten by insects, cannot be so easily detected, greater facilities of hiding such defects being afforded by the use of the card; and they trust that all exhibiters who have the interest of floriculture, and the encouragement of the true property of the above flowers in view, will use their utmost exertions against such a system.

(Signed)

William Colcutt.	Alexander Kirkpatrick.
James Maltby.	Henry Bell.
William Plaister.	John Payne.
Thomas Cook.	William Wale.
Thomas Looker.	William R. Hobbs.

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Part III.

REVIEWS.

ON THE PRINCIPLES WHICH ENSURE SUCCESS IN TRADE. A Lecture delivered by Mr. I. J. Mechi, at the Witham Literary Institution, Feb. 12, 1850.

We always read the effusions of Mr. Mechi with much interest; and glad should we have been to have made one of the party to whom the lecture was delivered. We must, however, content ourselves with the pamphlet, which we have read with much pleasure. His "Principles," &c. are important to every one in business; and as we have many young gardeners and nurserymen, who read the *Midland Florist*, as well as many amateurs, who are engaged in widely different callings, without any apology, we make the following extract, for their especial benefit: "If you have a reputation for integrity and industry, competing manufacturers will be most pressing and bland, that everything they have is most saleable. Each one will urge his suit, hoping to exclude his competitor. Here is your great danger. Young beginners are apt, naturally enough, to be too sanguine and hopeful; but remember, until you have ascertained your average weekly or monthly sale, to err on the safe side, by ordering too little, rather than too much. You can always add to them, when necessary. When the period of payment comes round, the syren and soft voice of persuasive eloquence will be exchanged for the stern tone of threat or remonstrance; if, finding yourself overstocked, you are unprepared for payment, the suppliers will say, 'Sir, it was your duty to know what you wanted: ours was to endeavour to vend our manufactures.'"

How truly does this apply. Ever anxious as all lovers of plants are, for the very beautiful things that

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are offered, too often, in giving orders, are the bounds of prudence overstepped, frequently causing serious embarrassment and unpleasantness. We recommend this very interesting lecture to our readers.

BECK'S FLORIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY, No. 29,

Is illustrated with a very pretty camellia japonica, called *Countess of Ellesmere*, of excellent form, the white of great purity, and delicately striped with rose. This nice variety was raised from seed by Messrs. Jackson & Son, of Kingston-on-Thames. There are Fragments for Florists, by Mr. Rivers, about sedums, thorns, scillas (squills). These last are advised to be allowed to remain in a clump, with a permanent label. Mr. R. recommends the little Persian Iris to remain in the ground constantly; he having a bed which has stood ten years, and blooms beautifully every spring. Fortune's Yellow China Rose, Mr. R. says, is no yellow at all. The flowers are fawn-coloured, and it blooms abundantly. There is another article on Northern Tulips, which will be useful to southern growers; and a very appropriate one on Bedding out Plants; Remarks on British Ferns; Cultivation of Balsams, &c. The wood-cut is a single flower of a new orchideous plant, named *Miltonia moreliana*. The number is a good one.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY, Part 4,

Is illustrated with *Gastrolobium Hugelii*, a pretty pea-shaped yellow-flowering plant, from New Holland. Two new Canothuses, *Papillosus* and *Dentatus*. Both have blue flowers, but we do not expect them to be hardy enough for the midland counties, without the protection of a wall. *Warrea lindeniana*, a very pretty terrestrial orchid. *Conoclinum ianthinum*, a stove or warm greenhouse plant, of not much beauty. Also an interesting plate of insects destructive to the rose. This is really very useful; the

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insects are nicely coloured, so that any one may recognize them in a moment. There are also near upon a score of wood-cuts of plants, &c. The articles are varied and interesting.

HARRISON'S FLORICULTURAL CABINET.

WE are always glad to get this old and established favourite. The last number is illustrated with a well-executed figure of that truly splendid rose *Geant des Battailles*. We are quite sure, that if the subscribers will compare the present monthly issue with several of the earlier volumes, they will be quite struck with the great improvement made in every part of the work; and most sincerely do we hope that the spirited editor meets with a sale commensurate with its excellence.

THE GARDENER'S HIVE

CONTINUES its useful career with unabated perseverance. It is not to be wondered at, that there are occasional symptoms of *stinging*, but the *honey* flows in abundance. Mr. Neville, the editor, we know to be a good and successful florist, and under his management it will doubtless become a favourite.

QUERIES.

There is a variety of broccoli grown in our neighbourhood which is extremely white, and of a conical or sugarloaf form. I should very much like to possess it, but the growers are very particular about letting any one else have it. Can you form any idea as to what sort it is? I should feel extremely obliged if you would tell me the name of it, in your next number.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

[We do not admire the greedy practice of keeping any particular seed, to the exclusion of others; and if our correspondent will forward his address, enclosing two postage stamps, we will send him some broccoli, *free by post*, which shall be *superior* to the sort he alludes to.]

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My cucumbers are very much affected with a disease, termed about us the spot; they show symptoms of it as soon as they begin to make any progress. My plants have been spoilt by it two or three different times. I should be very much obliged to you, or any of your correspondents, for a receipt, in the next number of the *Midland Florist*, for the prevention and cure of this disease. A YOUNG BEGINNER.

Can you give me any information as to the best phloxes? I see a vast many names, in various lists. Which would be the best six for a cottager to buy? R. S.

[We like the following. They are not expensive, and are very pretty.

King of the Whites.—A dwarf variety, with large compact heads of pure white flowers.

Van Houttii.—A striped variety, extremely showy.

Ninon de L'Enclos.—Cream, or French white, with pink eye.

Speciosissima Superba.—Deep rosy pink, with white centre, in very large spikes.

Donklœria.—Excellent shape, flowers in large trusses, with purple tube and centre.

Densa.—Dwarf, close habit, flowers pink and attractive.]

I have heard that Lightbody's Fair Maid Auricula is very similar to Taylor's Glory. Is it so, and what is your opinion? A LANCASHIRE FLORIST.

[Taylor's Glory is a very different flower to Fair Maid, which, when not too strongly grown, is one of the best white edges we have seen for a long time.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CAMELLIAS.—The plants are probably "pot-bound," which they are liable to. The ball of roots should be examined, and loosened; they may then be repotted in rather larger pots, in rich vegetable soil and throughly decomposed manure.

VIOLETS.—Russian and Neapolitan violets are distinct, the former being dark purple, the latter lilac or pale pink; both are very fragrant. We take off rooted runners early in the autumn, planting them out on well-prepared beds; they then get well established before winter.

SEA WATER TO ASPARAGUS BEDS.—From our midland position, we have no experience in this matter, but should say that once in ten days would not be too often. Cannot our correspondent try it on a few yards of her asparagus bed? We should be most happy to learn the result.

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COVERING POTS WITH MOSS.—This prevents excessive evaporation, and where the time taken to attend upon plants is an object, may be employed advantageously. The oleander ought to thrive. They are fond of moisture. Is the pot well drained ?

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JUNE.

THE backward spring, and cold weather we have had during the greater part of the month of May, will cause florists' flowers, as well as other things to come considerably out of season, and we imagine the plan of fixing exhibitions of any particular flower a long time beforehand, will be at fault.

In the northern and midland counties, *tulips*, where they have been cared for, will now be in full bloom; after the bloom is over the awning may be taken off, and any capsules which may have been seeded should be covered with a glass shade, fastened to a stick, to prevent moisture settling on the top and causing decay. If the bulbs are ready to take up before the latter end of the month, a dry day should be chosen for the operation. It is a bad plan to allow them to remain in the ground till the stem is thoroughly decayed.

Both *pansies* and *pinks* will be better for occasional waterings with weak liquid manure. The latter should have the spindles neatly tied up to sticks, and the least promising buds removed, that the energies of the plant may not be too strongly taxed. Pipings may be put in on a prepared border, as soon as ready.

Carnations and Picotees.—We have sometimes seen the shoots covered with green fly, which have been destroyed by crushing between the finger and thumb; this is, however, very slovenly as well as hurtful to the plant, as there appears to be something highly deleterious in the juices of these insects. A camel hair brush is a good thing with which to effect their removal. When water is given to plants in pots, let it it be done abundantly. *Picotees* seldom run their colours, as *carnations* are apt to do, therefore liquid manure may be given them rather plentifully, though weak at all times. Liquid manuring is easily overdone.

We have the *ranunculus* blooming this month. They are apt to be attacked by the "cuckoo spit" (so called hereabout), a green insect, enveloped in froth. There is also a green caterpillar, which should be looked for; it takes up its position on

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the stalk, immediately below the buds, and is so similar in colour as not to be easily detected, without a close scrutiny. A light awning should be stretched over the bed, and the paths kept moist. We do not like constant watering; if the bed is well made, this will not be so much needed. Impregnate those blooms from which it is desirable to save seed.

In the little greenhouse of the amateur, gaiety ought to prevail; and if he have one of Brown's patent fumigators, the trouble attending on the plants will be lessened, whilst their beauty will be increased, by their thorough protection from injurious insects. *Fuchsias* are fond of a moist atmosphere, and so are *mimuluses*, and need but little attention. *Calceolarias* also may be grown advantageously with the before-mentioned plants, and should now be in their glory; and as immense improvement has of late years been effected by the system of cross-impregnation (thanks to Messrs. Holmes, Kinghorn, Gains, &c.), we would advise all growers, however small, to attempt something in this way. As *cinerarias* go out of bloom, cut them down; they will put out shoots close to the surface, from which young plants can be made. *Geraniums* also will be adding to the display; and such things as *tender annuals*, *balsams*, &c. must be carefully attended to, that, as the above-named flowers go out of bloom, they may take their place. *Chrysanthemums* should be encouraged, and young plants repotted, taking off the leading points of the shoots. Syringing the house occasionally, as well as fumigating, are two points of management which must be carefully attended to.

Out of doors, all bedding plants should be put out without delay, and these are now so cheap that no excuse can be offered, where there is not an abundant display. We see, amongst new plants, there is a white *verbena*, with the habit of V. melindus, which will be an acquisition. With the *shrubby calceolarias*, *cupheas*, *salvias*, *lobelias*, *scarlet geraniums*, *verbenas*, &c. much may be done. Thin out *annuals* and plant out *ten-week stocks*, *asters*, *marigolds*, &c.; shade and water till established, and do not forget *dahlias*; these plants require more moisture than many people give them.

In the kitchen garden, plant out abundance of *cauliflower*, *Brussels sprouts*, *savoys*, &c. Put out early *celery* (we would particularly direct attention to an interesting article on growing this vegetable, in the present number). Plant out *leeks* in very richly prepared soil. Try *peas*, for a late crop (they are often valuable), and *mustard*, *cress*, &c. for succession crops. *Endive* should be got in, and *Six-week* or *Snowball turnip* sown. *Kidney beans* should be well rodded, giving them, however, plenty of room. Attend to the minutiæ of management, such as stirring the soil between the rows of growing crops, thinning out *onions* and other crops which are too thick. Transplant *lettuce*, &c., and above all things keep down weeds.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

The annual exhibition of auriculas and polyanthuses was held on the 22nd of April, at the house of Mr. John Harrison, the Masons' Arms Inn, Middleton, near Manchester, when the judges (Messrs. Wm. Chadwick, John Bamford, and Joseph Taylor) awarded prizes for the following flowers:—

Best Pan of Four Varieties of Auriculas—Imperator, Lancashire Hero, Wood's Delight, and Blue Bonnet, Mr. David Jackson.

AURICULAS.

Green-edged.

1 Imperator, J. Buckley.
2 Colonel, E. Elliott.
3 Freedom, J. Ashworth.
4 Nelson, C. Stott.
5 Laddie. E. Elliott.
6 Prince of Wales, R. Lancashire.
7 Wilbraham, E. Fallows.
8 Morris Green Hero, D. Jackson.

Grey-edged.

1 Privateer, R. Lancashire.
2 Complete, C. Ball.
3 Lancashire Hero, D. Jackson.
4 Lovely Ann, ditto.
5 Mary Ann, R. Lancashire.
6 Ringleader, C. Stott.
7 Fair Flora, R. Lancashire.
8 Conqueror, W. Kent.

White-edged.

1 Favourite, C. Ball.
2 Regular, J. Buckley.
3 Venus ditto.
4 Countess of Wilton, E. Elliott.
5 Chancellor, J. Holland.
6 Seedling, J. Buckley.
7 Ruleall, J. Fallows.
8 Pott's Regulator, J. Holland.

Selfs.

1 Othello, E. Elliott.
2 Flag, J. Buckley.
3 Blue Bonnet, R. Lancashire.
4 True Blue, C. Stott.
5 Apollo, E. Elliott.
6 Nonsuch, J. Walker.
7 Jupiter, J. Holland.
8 Seedling, R. Lancashire.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Alexander, C. Ball.
2 Russell, J. Heap.
3 Exile, C. Ball.
4 Lord Lincoln, R. Lancashire.
5 Sovereign, W. Kent.
6 Beauty, ditto.
7 Bang Europe, J. Ashworth.
8 Cheshire Favourite, J. Holland.
9 Princess Royal, W. Kent.
10 George IV., J. Heap.
11 King, J. Buckley.
12 Prince Regent, R. Lancashire.

Best Pan of Four Alpines—Conspicua, Lady Alpine, Hannah, and Unknown, J. Holland. Best Bunch—Blue Bonnet, D. Jackson.

MANSFIELD AMATEUR FLORAL SOCIETY AURICULA SHOW, April 22.

Best Pan—Robin Hood, Conqueror of Europe, Miss Willoughby, and Lord Primate, Mr. Green. 2 Lovely Ann, Conqueror of Europe, Countess of Wilton, and Blue Bonnet, Mr. Bowman.

Best of any Colour—Holland's Champion, Mr. Bowman.

Green-edged.

1 Lovely Ann, Mr. Green.
2 Imperator, ditto.
3 Ditto, Mr. Bowman.
4 Lord Lascelles, Mr. Oldham.
5 Lovely Ann, Mr. Green.
6 Ditto, Mr Oldham.

Grey-edged.

1 Conqueror of Europe, Mr. Oldham.
2 Ringleader, Mr. Green.
3 Lovely Ann, Mr. Battersby.
4 Conqueror of Europe, Mr. Green.
5 Ringleader, Mr. Oldham.
6 Union, Mr. Bowman.

White-edged.

1 True Briton, Mr. Bowman.
2 Regular, Mr. Battersby.
3 Taylor's Favourite, Mr. Green.
4 Lady Duncan, Mr. Bowman.
5 Taylor's Glory, Mr. Bowman.
6 Ditto, ditto.

Selfs.

1 Kenyon's Freedom, Mr. Battersby.
2 Blue Bonnet, Mr. Green.
3 'Squire Mundy, Mr. Oldham.
4 Blue Bonnet, Mr. Green.
5 Nonsuch, ditto.
6 Ditto, Mr. Oldham.

Alpines.

Premier Prize, for the best Seedling—Battersby's Brunette, Mr. Oldham.
1 Green's No. 1 Seedling, Mr. Green.
2 Battersby's Brunette, Mr. Battersby.
3 Conspicua, Mr. Green.
4 Emerson's Favourite, ditto.
5 Conspicua, Mr. Battersby.
6 Emerson's Favourite, Mr. Green.

Judge—Mr. J. Spencer, of the Hut Inn.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE GREAT NORTHERN TULIP SHOWS FOR 1850.

As the Great Northern Tulip Shows, from various causes, attracted a considerable degree of public attention, it will, of course, be expected that we should say something about them. That held at the Corn Exchange, Manchester, took place on Tuesday, the 28th of May, and an immense number of blooms were brought together. It was evident, however, from the backwardness of the season, that very many of the best flowers in Lancashire were not sufficiently forward, thus giving an advantage to those who resided farther south. It would have been well, if the flowers at this exhibition had been arranged in their varieties—it would have given the judges a better opportunity of making their selection; as it was, the company were admitted long before they had finished their labours, which ought at all times to be avoided.

The flowers certainly were much better than we expected to see them; and as the list of prizes is given at the close of this number, we shall confine ourselves to a brief description of some of the most striking blooms. First and foremost, there was a new flamed rose, broken from Slater's Kate Connor. It was not exhibited for a prize, having too many petals, but its general properties are excellent. Kate had been broken last season, by Mr. Thomas Chippendale, of Tottleworth, in a beautifully feathered state, and we have no doubt, in either character it will be greatly prized. Lancashire Hero, shown by Mr. Prescott, in the first pan, was really the best of

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the sort we had seen; pure white, with a dazzling black feather, without the slightest irregularity, round every petal. We understood it to be a break of this year. Unfortunately, like most other things in this world, it has a drawback, the stamens being much stained. In the second pan, Polyphemus (flamed) was first-rate. In the third pan, Heroine, an extra-feathered rose, grown by Mr. Thorniley, of Heaton Norris, was perfection itself, as far as the variety will admit; in fact, the Heroines mustered in great strength, and were certainly in extra-fine character. Eclipse, in the fourth pan, was like a very good Black Bagot, remarkably steady. In feathered byblœmens, the first in its class, as well as gaining an extra prize, for being the best in the room, was Sable Monarch, grown and exhibited by Mr. Thomas Adams, of Derby. It really was a *clipper*, and though a young flower, was extremely attractive. The form was very good, the petals well topped and broad, and the white of great purity. If a strain like that were easily attained, we should soon see many of our old favourites eclipsed at the various exhibitions. Naylor's Edgar we like very much; it is a splendid sort, though the stamens are stained. Lord Stanley (flamed bizarre) was shown in good character. We mention this flower more particularly in order to correct a mistake. Its proper name is Pearson's Lord Milton; it was broken into colour at least twenty years ago, by the late Mr. John Pearson, of Chilwell, near Nottingham, with whom we were then an apprentice, and we well recollect the late Mr. Thomas Gascoigne giving two pounds for the bulb, which was then taken up, Mr. P. reserving the bloom, which took the first prize at the Nottingham show, the succeeding day.

In flamed byblœmens, the Queen Charlottes were good, and when "Her Majesty" is right, it will take a good deal to persuade a northern or midland judge that there is a better flame grown. Though much is said of the Chellastons, they cannot compete with

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Queen Charlotte in steadiness and general excellence. It is a safe pan flower. Gibbons's Princess Royal, one of the prettiest of his flames, was also good; and the old Lancashire favourite, Violet Wallers, was in its best character, for though rather long and somewhat pointed, it was placed third. We must not forget a new flower called Lord Denman, a rosy flamed byblœmen, the variety exhibited at York, last year, under the designation of Violet Alexander, though a seedling. It was very attractive, and will doubtless prove useful; the beam is not so stout as in many flowers, keeping a just proportion with the other markings.

The breeders were good. Ne plus ultra (rose), or, as it is sometimes called, Lord Derby, was very pleasing, form, colour, and purity being excellent, though we fancy it does not, when rectified, boast of so much attraction. Slater's Earl Radnor, Adrian, and John o'Gaunt were fine bizarres. In rose breeders there were King of Scarlets, Queen Philippa, and Lady Fanshawe; and in byblœmens, Sir. H. Pottinger. In the report of the exhibition, in the *Manchester Guardian*, we have only the flowers of the first pan named. The second, Mr. Gibbons; the third, Mr. Thorniley; and the fourth, Mr. Lakin, are not attended to. We have supplied the deficiency for our readers, as there were excellent flowers also in these pans. There were also prizes awarded for the best flower of each class in the room, but this we do not see in the report.

Best Feathered Bizarre—Charles X., Mr. J. Thorniley, Heaton Norris, Stockport.
Best Flamed Bizarre—Polyphemus, Mr. J. Gibbons, Derby.
Best Feathered Byblœmen—Sable Monarch, Mr. T. Adams, Derby.
Best Flamed Byblœmen—Queen Charlotte, Mr. Prescott, Lowton.
Best Feathered Rose—Heroine, Mr. Thorniley.
Best Flamed Rose—Triomphe Royale, Mr. Gibbons.

We were sorry to hear that the money taken at the door would not cover the expense. The day was

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far from propitious, which, doubtless, had considerable effect in producing such a result; and we believe that Mr. Slater now admits that to carry out so great a design, a five shilling subscription is too little; besides requiring much more assistance in the various departments. The meeting of florists, in the evening, at the Swan with Two Necks, was well attended. The Falstaff Inn was also crowded; in fact, we never before saw so many florists together.

The exhibition at the Belle Vue Gardens took place the next day, and as some of the exhibiters at the Corn Exchange were also subscribers there, their flowers were again staged. We have before expressed an opinion that no better situation could be selected than this very beautiful place, and the arrangements for comfort were well made, so that in fact every thing went off as well as its most sanguine supporters could wish.

The tent in which the exhibition took place was at least fifty yards long, with tables on each side, which were covered with a noble display of tulips. It would be invidious in us to draw comparisons; suffice it to say that the flowers were of a very superior character. The first cup came near to Nottingham, the flowers being cut from the stock of the late Mr. Thomas Gascoigne, now in the possession of his son-in-law, Mr. Houghton. They were very fine. The feathered rose, however, was rather past its best; but all the pans had great merit, and that too in one of the most unpropitious seasons on record. Our observations, of course, must only extend to part of the flowers; the position of the whole on the prize stage will be found in its proper place. There was a splendid flower of Polyphemus, feathered, black and yellow; it was also past its best, but the judges in this case exercised the discretionary power vested in them. Had it been right, it would unquestionably have stood first. The Mayor of Warrington was a most promising seedling bizarre, with fine cup and dark feather, rather lightly laid on. It was raised

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by G. W. Hardy, Esq. of Warrington, in the year 1841, from seed of Polyphemus, crossed with San Joe. It bloomed as a breeder, for the first time, in 1849, breaking into colour this season. Several seedlings were from Scotland. Amongst them, we particularized Mary Lamb, a very nice feathered rose; it was heavily feathered, pure, and the marking peculiarly brilliant. If it have a fault, the petals narrow too rapidly; at all events, a fresh flower, like the one exhibited, would not be very easily beaten by anything at present out in the class. Reid's Prince Albert (feathered byblœmen) was also very pure and pretty. There is not that about it to make a *grand flower*, it being rather long, but it should be grown. Amongst other flowers noticeable, there was a good Charbonnier Noir, which we (though one of the judges) fancy ought to have been placed higher up. We came to this conclusion later in the day, when the flowers were more expanded by the sun. The fact is that many of the Lancashire flowers were closed when we began to inspect them; from which circumstance, and having an immense number to go through, we are only surprized that there were not more mistakes made. We cannot pass that fine pan flower, Charles X., without comment. It was most excellent; but here we had it under several aliases, namely, Royal Sovereign, Defiance, Brisson, Page's George IV., &c. As the regulations were, that only one flower of a sort should be placed, after the first was selected, a host of good flowers were put aside.

In roses, independent of most of the old favourites being placed, such as Heroine and Aglaia, there was a flower which, though not very high in the class, we fancy will be found a fine variety: we allude to a feathered rose, called Lightcliffe Beauty. Had the petals been uninjured, it would have occupied a more prominent situation; it is in the character of Heroine, with a short cup, stout, pure, and well marked. There was something very attractive about Naylor's Jupiter, with its heavy and brilliant feather. We

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regret to say it was somewhat tinged, though we understand this is not always the case. Alexander le Roi was a nice flame, too long for the standard; but its fine and decided marking, combined with purity, will make it a favourite. Iphigene was evidently Vesta, in very good character. In byblœmens, General Barneveldt was a striking flower, as near black, on a white ground, as might be. Davy's Queen Charlotte, we think, can be nothing else than La Bienamie: we have had it twice or thrice, and can perceive no difference from that old sort. Sable Monarch again stood the first feathered byblœmen. Twenty-four hours had evidently improved its colour. Chellaston Beauty, a heavy feather, with a short cup, was decidedly a good thing. In breeders, there were many good flowers. Sir Thomas Picton, raised from the same pod of seed as the Mayor of Warrington, previously noticed, is a beautiful bizarre breeder, able to compete successfully with those old-established favourites, Polyphemus and Charbonnier. There was a sweet pretty thing, a rosy byblœmen, named Ada; it was a mere bud, and consequently placed last. We do not think it good policy to show fine sorts, when out of character; as florists at a distance, seeing them placed in an inferior position in the list, would be led to conclude that those before are best. In this instance had Ada been a few days older, it would have been at the other end.

After the flowers were judged, about fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner, G. W. Hardy, Esq. presiding, and Mr. Thorniley, of Heaton Norris, occupying the vice chair. The greatest good feeling prevailed, and it was agreed and voted unanimously, that the Great All England Tulip Show for 1851 should be held at Derby. We cannot conclude our remarks on these shows, without expressing our thanks for the courtesy and kindness we experienced on all hands, from our brother florists; and sure we are, when such meetings are conducted in a fair and honourable spirit, that a great impulse will be given to floriculture.

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We heard of nothing particular to mar the happiness of all, and we trust, that if anything may have arisen to create heartburnings and jealousies, it will now be buried in oblivion.

BEST TWELVE CARNATIONS AND BEST TWELVE PICOTEES.

COMPILED BY MR. JOHN EDWARDS,

From Returns obtained from Messrs. Bragg, and Turner, Slough; Barringer, Bedford; Creed, London; Ellis, Newhall; Norman, and Ward, Woolwich; Dodwell, Derby; Hallam, and Pope, Birmingham; Holliday, Northampton; Hollyoake, and Marris, Leicester; Hudson, Kingston, Notts.; Keyne, Salisbury; May, Sonning Hill; Pemble, Chatham; Sealey, Bristol; Slater, Manchester; Terry, Rochester; Wood, Nottingham; and Matthews, Weston-on-the-Green.

[The name within the parenthesis is that of the raiser, n indicates northern-raised, s southern-raised.]

CARNATIONS.

SCARLET BIZARRES.

Admiral Curzon (Easom) n, returned by Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, May, Newhall, Norman, Pope, Slater, Terry, Turner, Ward, Wood 19
Brutus (Colcutt) s, Keynes, Sealey 2
Duke of Sutherland (Elliott) n, Slater 1
Lord Rancliffe (Holliday) s, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Marris, Newhall, Norman, Sealey, Ward, Wood 13
Prince Albert (Hale) s, Pemble 1
Splendid (Martin) s, Barringer, Hallam, Holliday, May, Pemble, Pope, Terry, Turner 8

CRIMSON BIZARRES.

Caliban (May) s, Sealey 1
Count Pauline (Holmes) s, Barringer, Bragg, Newhall, Sealey 4
Edgar (May) s, Bragg.. 1
Georgiana (Jacques) s, Newhall 1
Hugo Meynell (Ely) n, Pope 1

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Lord Milton (Ely) n, Barringer, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, May, Norman, Pope, Slater, Turner, Ward, Wood .. 17
Mercutio (May) s, May, Terry 2
Rainbow (Cartwright) n, Ellis, Hallam, Pemble, Slater, Terry 5
Rainbow (Elliott) n, Hudson 1
Robert Burns (Mansley) n, Pemble 1
Thomas Hewlett (Holliday) s, Creed, Dodwell, Holliday, Hollyoake, Keynes, Marris, Norman, Turner, Ward, Wood 10

PINK BIZARRES.

Prince Albert (Puxley) s, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, May, Newhall, Pope, Terry, Turner, Ward .. 17
Princess Royal (Sealey) s, Pemble, Sealey 2
Princess Victoria (Smith) s, Norman, Wood 2
Sarah Payne (Ward) s, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, May, Newhall, Norman, Pemble, Pope, Seeley, Terry, Turner, Ward, Wood 21

PURPLE FLAKES.

Beauty of Woodhouse (Mansley) n, Barringer, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Keynes, Marris, May, Newhall, Norman, Pope, Sealey, Turner, Ward 16
Dr. Solander (Willmer) s, Pemble, Terry 2
Earl Spencer (Barringer) s, Barringer, Hallam, Keynes, Slater 4
Lord Byron (Taylor) n, Hollyoake, Hudson, Marris, Wood 4
Mango (Ely) n, May 1
Premier (Milwood) n, Creed, Dodwell, Wood .. 3
President (Martin) s, Ellis 1
Queen of Purples (Holliday) s, Bragg, Holliday, Newhall, Sealey 4
Rev. J. Bramhall (Clarke) n, Bragg, Turner 2
Squire Meynell (Brabbin) n, Hudson, Norman, Pemble, Slater, Terry, Ward.. 6
Squire Trow (Jackson) n, Pope 1

SCARLET FLAKES.

Bishop of Gloucester (Brown) s, Bragg, Creed, Holliday, Pemble, Terry 5
Bright Phœbus (Hodges) s, Newhall 1
Brilliant (Elliott) n, Dodwell, Wood 2
Defiance (Haines) n, Pope 1
Dr. Pattison (Hardwick) s, Norman 1
Firebrand (Hardwick) s, Barringer, Dodwell, Ellis, Hollyoake, Hudson, Ward, Wood 7
Hero of Middlesex (Willmer) s, Sealey 1

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Jenny Lind (Merryweather) n, Slater 1
King of Scarlets (Ely) n, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Hallam, Holliday, Marris, May, Pope, Sealey, Terry, Turner, Ward 12
Lydia (Adenbrook) s, Hallam, Hudson 2
North Midland (Ely) n, Keynes 1
Queen Victoria (Simpson) n, Ellis, Hollyoake, Marris, May, Newhall, Norman, Turner 7
Ulysses (Bucknall) s, Keynes 1
William IV. (Wilson) s, Pemble, Slater 2

ROSE FLAKES.

Ariel (May) s, Bragg, Creed, Hallam, Keynes, May, Sealey, Slater 7
Flora's Garland (Brooks) s, Barringer, Bragg, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Marris, Newhall, Norman, Pemble, Pope, Sealey, Terry, Turner, Ward 16
Harriet (Wilson) s, Pemble 1
Lady Ely (Ely) n, Newhall, Pope, Wood 3
Lorenzo (May) s, Creed, Dodwell, Holliday, Hollyoake, Keynes, Marris, May, Turner 8
Lovely Ann (Ely) n, Barringer, Dodwell, Hudson, Norman, Slater, Terry, Ward.. 7
Mrs. Pickering (Pickering) n, Wood 1
Princess Royal (Puxley) s, Ellis 1

PICOTEES.

HEAVY RED.

Antagonist (Read) s, Newhall 1
Duchess of Cambridge (Brooks) s, Hallam, Slater .. 2
Duke of Wellington (Sharp) s, Hudson 1
Goliath (Brinklow) s, Barringer 1
Isabella (Wildman) s, Bragg, Dodwell, Pemble, Pope, Sealey 5
King James (Headley) s, Bragg, Creed, Ellis, Holliday, Hollyoake, Keynes, Marris, May, Matthews, Newhall, Norman, Terry, Turner, Ward.. 14
Mr. Trahar (Dickson) s, Hallam, Holliday 2
Mrs. Bevan (Burroughes) s, Pemble, Terry 2
Prince of Wales (Marris) n, Creed, Dodwell, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, Norman, Slater, Turner, Ward, Wood 12
Schamel (Read) s, Barringer 1
Sebastian (May) s, Ellis, May, Pope, Sealey, Wood .. 5

LIGHT RED.

Duchess of Bedford (Brinklow) s, Barringer 1
Duchess of Sutherland (Burroughes) s, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Hollyoake, Keynes, Marris, May, Matthews, Norman, Slater, Turner, Wood 13

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Emma (Burroughes) s, Terry 1
Ernest (Edmonds) s, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Ward .. 4
Gem (Youell) s, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, Newhall, Norman, Pope, Sealey, Slater, Terry, Turner, Ward, Wood 20
Jenny Lind (Edmonds) s, Hudson, Pemble, Pope, Sealey 4
Lady Flora (Burroughes) s, Pemble 1
Miranda (May) s, May 1
Prince of Wales (Marris) n, Newhall 1

HEAVY PURPLE.

Constance (May) s, Matthews, Terry, Turner .. 3
Delicata (Holliday) s, Norman, Ward 2
General Jackson (Burroughes) s, Norman 1
Jenny Lind (Ely) n, Hallam 1
Jessica (May) s, Barringer, Creed, Keynes, May, Turner 5
Lady Chesterfield (Brinklow) s, Terry 1
Marquis of Exeter (Holliday) s, Bragg, Holliday .. 2
Nulli Secundus (Mitchell) n, Slater 1
Olivia (May) s, Ellis, Sealey 2
President (Burroughes) s, Holliday 1
Prince Albert (Marris) n, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, Slater, Ward, Wood 11
Princess Alice (Wood) s, Pope, Wood 2
Portia (May) s, Barringer, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Hollyoak, Marris, May, Newhall, Pope, Sealey.. .. 10
Queen Victoria (Crask) s, Newhall, Pemble 2
Regina (Gatliff) n, Hudson 1
Rising Sun (Brinklow) s, Pemble 1

LIGHT PURPLE.

Amy (Burroughes) s, Norman, Sealey, Ward 3
Ann Page (May) s, Wood 1
Delicata (Holliday) s, Ellis, Holliday, Newhall, Slater .. 4
Duke of Newcastle (Burroughes) s, Pemble, Slater .. 2
Exquisite (Hudson) n, Hudson 1
Fairy Queen (Barringer) s, Hallam 1
Juliet (May) s, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, May, Pemble, Pope, Sealey, Terry, Turner 16
Lady Harriet Moore (Turner) s, Hollyoake 1
Leader (Brinklow) s, Barringer 1
L'Elegant (Sharp) s, Creed 1
Lorina (Burroughes), s, Bragg, Dodwell, Hollyoake, Marris, May, Turner, Wood 7
Mrs. Favell (Ely) n, Pope 1
Prince Albert (Crask) s, Terry 1
Purple Perfection (Brinklow) s, Hudson 1

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Regina (Cox) s, Keynes, Matthews, Newhall, Norman, Ward 5

HEAVY ROSE.

Miss Rosa (Merryweather) n, Dodwell 1
Princess Royal (Marris) n, Hudson 1
Princess Royal (Willmer) s, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, May, Norman, Pemble, Pope, Sealey, Turner, Ward, Wood .. 17
Queen Victoria (Green) s, Barringer, Bragg, Ellis, Hallam, Hollyoake, Hudson, Newhall, Pemble, Sealey, Slater, Terry 11
Venus (Headley) s, Creed, Dodwell, Holliday, Hollyoake, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, May, Newhall, Norman, Pope, Slater, Terry, Turner, Ward, Wood.. .. 16

LIGHT ROSE.

Bride (Burroughes) s, Pemble 1
Ivanhoe (Crouch) s, Hallam, Pope.. 2
Lady Alice Peel (Burroughes) s, Dodwell, Keynes, Marris, Wood 4
Lady Dacre (Garratt) s, Barringer, Creed, Ellis, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Matthews, May, Norman, Sealey, Slater, Terry, Turner, Ward 14
Mrs. Barnard (Barnard) s, Barringer, Bragg, Creed, Dodwell, Ellis, Hallam, Holliday, Hollyoake, Hudson, Keynes, Marris, Matthews, May, Newhall, Norman, Pemble, Pope, Sealey, Slater, Terry, Turner, Ward, Wood 23
Mrs. Trahar (Dickson) s, Bragg 1
Sophia (Dickson) s, Newhall 1

COPPICEANA.

No. VI.

BETULA.

THE Birch generally attains too large a size for small gardens; nevertheless, there are some of the varieties extremely ornamental. There is the

Nettle leaved Birch. (Betula urticifolia.)—A very graceful tree. The branches curve beautifully, and the leaves are curiously laciniated, having a rather rough appearance. It is usually propagated by layers, but last autumn but one we succeeded in budding several on the common birch, and they have now made nice heads. The price is from 6d. to 1s.

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Dwarf Birch. (Betula pumila.)—As its name implies, of short stature; the foliage appears rather stiff, round, and slightly serrated. Inarched or grafted on a tall stem, it makes a very pretty small tree. Plants 1s. each.

Cut-leaved Birch. (Betula laciniata.)—One of the most handsome, combining with a nice pendulous character foliage remarkable for its beauty and elegance. This is inarched on the common variety, and is worth from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. according to age.

New Weeping Birch. (Betula pendula nova.)—A most beautiful variety, excelling in appearance the Weeping Birch, which is occasionally seen in our plantations. It is as yet scarce, and plants would be 3s. 6d. each.

Silver-striped Birch. (Betula argentea.)—Occasionally the foliage is variegated, but though we grow it we cannot recommend it, as it is extremely uncertain in its character.

Buddlea.

Buddlea Globosa.—This fine plant is associated with our earliest recollections. In favourable situations it attains considerable size, bearing a profusion of spikes of flowers, which are like large golden marbles, and are much frequented by bees. It roots freely by layers of the young wood; the foliage is long and narrow, and rather glaucous underneath. As a plant to fill up a corner, in a southern aspect, which would be too hot for most other shrubs, it is peculiarly adapted. In the southern counties it requires no protection, but here it occasionally gets cut down to the ground. Price 1s.

Buxus.

Buxus Balearicus. (The Minorca Box.)—A very broad leaved stout-growing variety—a nice evergreen. It is propagated by cuttings, and is worth from 9d. to 1s. We have lately received a variety of this sort with the margins of the leaves yellow.

B. Salicifolia. (The Willow-leaved Box.)—A slender-growing interesting small evergreen, with very narrow leaves. 1s.

B. Rosamarinifolia. (The Rosemary-leaved Box.)—This variety has the narrowest foliage of any sort we know; it has a rough appearance, and makes a very singular little evergreen. Plants 1s. each.

B. Elegantissima.—A really pretty and distinct gold-striped sort. It is not of very robust growth, but will be admired for its compact habit. Plants 1s. each.

B. Argentea Nana. (The Dwarf Silver-striped Box.)—This also is neat and distinct, and when sufficiently plentiful for edgings, it will, no doubt, be extensively used. Its variegation is very bright. Plants 1s. each.

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B. Pendula Variegata. (The Variegated Weeping Box.)—A distinct and pretty variegated evergreen. The branches weep, and it is a decidedly good variety. Plants 6d. each.

B. Caucasicum. (The Caucasian Box.)—A green variety, with long slender shoots, rather diffuse in habit; makes nice small bushes. Plants 1s. each.

B. Latifolia. (The Broad-leaved Tree Box.)—This is very distinct from the common variety. We believe it was raised at Sawbridgeworth. It makes a large bush, being of very robust growth. Plants 6d. each.

B. Rotundifolia. (The Round-leaved Tree Box.)—This again is easily distinguished from all others, by the rotundity of its foliage. New with us, but apparently will be a very desirable sort.

To these may be added at least three more varieties of variegated tree box, but which we have under no specific name.

Broussonetia.

Broussonetia Papyrifera. (The Paper Mulberry.)—A tree of small growth, with most singularly cut foliage. We propagate it by layers of the old wood. It requires some training, as it is apt to form a bush rather than a tree. We had one from the Continent, with variegated foliage, but unfortunately lost it. Price 1s.

Cydonia.

Cydonia Japonica. (The Japanese Quince, or Pyrus Japonica.)—A well-known shrub, flowering in early spring; it has bunches of deep scarlet flowers, with conspicuous yellow stamens, and is certainly one of the most attractive spring-flowering plants we possess. It is inclined to grow rather awkwardly, but looks extremely well trained to a trellis or stake, making a pillar of bloom. It is sometimes grafted standard high, on the common quince, and will then form a picturesque small lawn tree. The fruit is irregular in size, and very astringent. Some people gather it for the purpose of placing in their drawers or closets, where it diffuses a strong fruity odour. The plant is usually propagated by layers of the previous year's wood. Young plants for removal should be kept in small pots, as the roots seldom retain any soil. The usual price is 1s.

C. Japonica Alba. (The White-flowering Japanese Quince.)—Precisely like the preceding in habit, &c. except that the flowers are a blush white, strongly marked with pink on the outside. As a contrast with the scarlet it is desirable. 1s.

C. Japonica Semipleno. (The Semidouble Japanese Quince.)—The only difference existing between this variety and the two

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before mentioned, is, that the flowers contain a few more petals, and are rather paler than the common sort.

C. Sinensis.—This is a widely different plant from the preceding, it flowers in early spring, with pale blossoms, though with us it does not bloom freely. Not very ornamental. 1s. 6d. each.

GROWING THE ALSTRŒMERIA IN A COMMON WAY.

THE following was suggested on reading the reprint from the *Gardener's Chronicle*, in the *Midland Florist* for June. Early in May, two years since, I purchased of Messrs. Hurst and Co. Leadenhall-street, a packet of Van Houtte's Alstrœmerias, and sowed a portion of the seed in what is termed a sixteen-sized pot, placing it under a south wall, and letting it have all the sun I could command, giving a good supply of water once or twice a-day, as it might require. Early in June of the same year, about a dozen plants made their appearance, and the pot was not removed throughout the summer. In the autumn, one of the plants threw up a head of bloom, and towards the end of October, I gave no more water, and the foliage soon died down. I then removed the pot, and set it on a shelf in an outhouse, where it remained until early in January, 1849, when I planted them out singly, five inches deep, in a bed about a yard square, of common garden mould, and spread over the surface about one inch thick of very rotten dung. I did not otherwise prepare the bed. By the end of February, the foliage began to show itself, and early in June, the flowers began to expand, and I should think, from this time to the end of October, there were never less than one hundred blooms daily, the bed being one mass of beauty, commanding attention from the most common observer. I gave water freely during the summer, and continued to the end of September about six gallons every alternate day, and the bed continued gay until the frost cut them down. The blooms were very dissimilar, and ripened plenty

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of seed. Amongst the number was a climbing one, a kind of bomaria, which ran up a stick, six feet high, and bloomed as free as the others, and ripened seed. The bloom of this plant was red and green, and it was cut down by the frost with the others. In the beginning of last December, I cleared the bed of the decayed stems, &c. and gave dung as before, and in January the foliage had began to show itself, and stood the severe frosts of last winter, with no other protection; and the bed at this time (June 11, 1850) is one mass of foliage and flower stems, just coming into bloom. Also I have just commenced watering the subsoil of the bed, it being a hot dry gravel. I write this merely to show the easy culture of this beautiful flower, despite what may be said to the contrary.

A CONSTANT READER.

Toddington.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

THE GROS DAMAS BLANC GRAPE is stated in the *Revue Horticole*, to be so hardy as to ripen its fruit in any aspect or situation (in France of course), whether on wall or espalier. This would be worth while introducing, for if more hardy than the Sweetwater or the Miller, it would be extremely valuable. It is described as having large round fruit, with firm and sweet flesh. We see no reason why hardy vines may not be originated from seed, if attention be directed to it. There are other new varieties enu-

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merated, but as robustness of constitution and adaptation to out-of-door culture is more likely to interest small gardeners, we have thought it best only to notice the above.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

PELARGONIUM OCELLATUM.—This is a seedling geranium of Mr. Hoyle's, who is famous for the rich colouring of his flowers. It was exhibited at Chiswick. The three lower petals have a distinct dark spot on each, and the ground colour is pale rose. A very striking and attractive sort.

The following three new tropœolums are very handsome, excellent for the house, and in summer make fine plants for trellises in the open ground:—

T. Dickeryanum.—A novel and singular variety. The colour being a combination of violet, scarlet, and green.

T. Wagnerianum.—The petals are serrated or fringed; the tube is scarlet, with green and scarlet lip.

T. Smithii.—The foliage very pretty, and the flower scarlet.

HARDY PERENNIAL HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

CAMPANULA NOBELIS ALBA.—Habit of the fine variety C. nobelis, but with white flowers.

PENTSTEMON FORMOSA.—Fine scarlet, shaded and mottled with violet; handsome.

PENTSTEMON BUCKII.—Tube scarlet, with distinct white throat.

PENTSTEMON PELLERII.—An improvement on Mac Ewenii. The habit is peculiarly good, dwarf and bushy. Tube large, scarlet, with French white throat.

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DELPHINEUM AZUREUM PLENUM.—Very beautiful; somewhat of the character of our old favourite D. Barlowii, but bright blue.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

THOMPSON'S DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND POLYANTHUS.—This is a new and beautiful seedling, raised by James Thompson, Esq., Morpeth. It is a very striking variety, and much after the fashion of that old veteran favourite, Pearson's Alexander, to which, no doubt, it owes its origin. It is, however, more circular in the eye, which gives it a decided advantage over its parent; and if it can be grown to retain this highly essential property through future years, it will go forth and make its debut in the floral world as one of the "gems of the north." It took the seedling prize at Felton, the first week in May, and has since been pronounced by Mr. Glenny as well worthy of the honour.—WILLIAM HARRISON.

BEDDING PLANTS.

VERBENAS.

A VERY particular friend writes us as follows:—The immense quantity raised on the Continent is beyond conception, and each year some new shade or contrast is brought out. I could send you the names, with descriptions, of from twenty to thirty varieties, which are very beautiful and novel, but shall not trespass on you pages. Amongst blues,

Boucharlat's Pearl is excellent. The truss is large, the shape tolerably good, the colour light violet, which is contrasted with a distinct white centre.

Celestina (Chauviere) is blue of another shade, and really is a splendid sort; the form is much above the average, besides having the merit of forming very large trusses.

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Madame Bueuzod (Chauviere).—A striking and most charming variety. The flowers are of snowy whiteness, with a distinct and bright crimson centre.

Argus (Nivert).—A very fine and dazzling scarlet, the centre dark marone, verging on black. This is a peculiarly splendid variety, arresting the attention by its richness.

Madame Fremion (Boucharlat).—Though marked somewhat in the same way as the preceding, this is extremely distinct, the colour being a crimson bronzy shade, with black centre. This will be a favourite.

Fanny Boucharlat (Boucharlat).—A nice sort, and extremely attractive, the distinct purple spot contrasting well with the rich pink of the ground colour. One of the best of Boucharlat's seedlings.

Gil Blas.—A large dark blue, or purple, of Dufoy's. Extra form and size, trusses remarkably well, and will be a general favourite.

These will no doubt be expensive this season, but your readers must look out for them next.

HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS.

CLEMATIS CŒRULEA.—Though not exactly new, yet we mention it in order to remind our readers that they ought to possess it. However small the garden, wherever there is a porch, a summer-house, a trellis, or room for a stake or support, there ought this very beautiful hardy climbing plant to be. On strong loam the flowers are very large, ours average at least five inches across.

CLEMATIS MONTANA.—This is more robust in growth, and now (June 14) covered with thousands of white blossoms, like the wood anemone. We had not noticed till to-day that the flowers are very agreeably scented, having a similar odour to that general favourite, the heliotrope.

JUNIPERUS FILIFORMIS.—A very interesting hardy evergreen, with drooping branches, and foliage of light green. A good addition to this tribe of plants.

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THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

JOAN OF ARC TULIP.—On the 6th of June we received a bloom, by post, of this very excellent feathered rose. It is of good size, stout petal, good form, great purity, and broadly margined with fine crimson. The filaments also are pure, supporting anthers of a large size; in fact, larger we think than we have ever before seen in a tulip. We should say it is a first-rate variety.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

SELECT NARCISSI.

As the narcissi are early flowering and general favourites, we extract from *Beck's Florist and Garden Miscellany*, the following list of the best, hoping it will be a guide to those of our readers who may be inclined to purchase bulbs in the ensuing autumn:—

Narcissus Biflorus.—Petals pale straw colour, cup yellow; fragrant; season April and May.

N. Triflorus.—White, cup yellow; fragrant; April and May.

N. Spathulatus.—White, cup yellow, margined red; fragrant; May.

N. Majalis Plenus.—White; fragrant; May; one of the best.

N. Recurvus.—Like Spathulatus, but larger flowers; fragrant; May.

N. Jonquilla (the Jonquil).—Yellow; very fragrant; April and May. There is also a double variety, which is rather tender.

N. Albicans (Ajax).—Sulphur; April; very pretty.

N. Bicolor (Ajax).—Petals white; cup yellow; April.

N. Pumilus (Ajax).—Yellow, dwarf and pretty; one of the earliest.

N. Sabini (Ajax).—Petals white, cup yellow; April.

N. Cernuus Plenus (Ajax).—Sulphur; April; one of the prettiest.

N. Pulchellus (Ganymedes).—Petals sulphur, reflexed, cup paler; April and May; very distinct and pretty.

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N. Telamonius Plenus (Ajax).—Yellow; April; very showy.
N. Conspicuus (Corbularia).—Petals narrow and inconspicuous, cup very large, deep yellow; April; very distinct.
N. Campernelli (Phylogine).—Yellow; April and May.
N. Aurantius Plenus (Queltia).—Orange; April; very showy.
N. Concolor Plenus (Queltia).—Sulphur; April; very showy.
N. Orientalis (Queltia).—Whitish petals, orange cup; April.

RHUBARB SHOW,

At Mr. Wasnidge's, Crown Inn, Market-place, Nottingham, June 10th.

1	Mr. Hall	3 sticks,	Victoria,	15lbs.	2oz.
2	Mr. Ackroyd	„	„	13	1
3	Mr. Orchard	„	„	12	9
4	Mr. Willis	„	„	12	8
5	Mr. King.....	„	„	11	4
6	Mr. Mitchell	„	„	10	8
7	Mr. Taylor	„	„	9	3
8	Mr. Wasnidge.....	„	„	8	11
9	Mr. Bradfield.....	„	„	8	11

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR JULY.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

MANY of the cuttings put in from time to time will have taken root. Those for autumn blooming may be planted out at once; and a cool spot selected, and prepared with plenty of coarse sand, to transplant the remainder into, for stock plants.

Keep the surface of the soil removed between those cuttings in process of striking; and clean the cuttings of all dead foliage. It should be borne in mind, that the situation for the pansy ought to be the first object; and if there is a part of the garden cool, and rather shady, but of inferior soil, we advise the cultivator to make that soil suit the plant, which will be found more easy than to make the situation.

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REVIEWS.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE BRITISH FERNS AND THEIR ALLIES. By G. W. Francis, Esq., F.L.S., author of "The Little English Flora," "Grammar of Botany," &c. Fourth edition. *Simpkin & Marshall, London.*

WE are glad to find that a fourth edition of this excellent work is required, and we wish it every success its merits deserve. The engravings are delicately and beautifully executed, and so true to nature that the merest tyro would instantly recognize any British fern which he might come in contact with. The work is got up very neatly, and at a moderate price; we therefore strongly recommend it to our friends who are interested in "fern culture."

BECK'S FLORIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY, No. 30.

THE *Prince of Wales Mimulus* is the illustration to the present number, and a beautiful variety it appears to be. The subjects comprise, amongst others, a very useful List of the choicest Pansies, a good guide for those commencing their cultivation, or for those who may wish to add to their stock. In the ladies' page also there is a good List of Narcissi, which we shall extract; it will be found in another place. Remarks on British Ferns, Floral Tastes and their Results, &c., are all worthy of attentive perusal.

A HISTORY OF BRITISH BIRDS, with an Illustration of each Species, accurately coloured. By the Rev. F. O. Morris, B.A., Member of the Ashmolean Society. *London: Groombridge & Sons, Paternoster-row.*

WE quite agree with the reverend editor, that in works of natural history "far too great a number of

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new genera have been introduced by modern naturalists." It is worse than useless to multiply difficulties, and thus create hindrances to those who would willingly study this interesting portion of the creation. We therefore gladly hail the appearance of the first number, which promises remarkably well. The illustrations are coloured, and comprise *The Griffon Vulture*, a pair of *Egyptian Vultures*, *The Erne*, and *The Golden Eagle*. The descriptive portion is written in an easy, pleasing style, which will undoubtedly prove attractive. For our own part, we have been enthusiastically attached to ornithology for years, and having derived much pleasure from the pursuit, we would recommend others to follow it; and this work, we are sure, will be a great help to them in acquiring the requisite knowledge.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY. Conducted by T. B. Moore, F.B.S., & W. P. Ayres, C.M.H.S.

THE illustrations are *Pentstemon azureus*, a beautiful new hardy herbaceous plant. *Vriesia speciosa* (Showy Vriesia), a splendid stove plant, which should be seen to be appreciated. Two beautiful plates of the new water lilly, *Victoria Regia*. An excellent and most useful coloured plate of *pear insects*. Another of *Forsythia viridissima* (Deep Green Forsythia), a hardy shrub, but from the precocity with which it bears its flowers, a sheltered situation is preferable. There is also a nice group of cinerarias, comprising *Madame Miellez*, *Dr. Bushell*, *Electra*, and *Blue Perfection*. Added to these, there is a great quantity of woodcuts, illustrative of garden terraces, the Victoria regia, new plants, as well as portraits of some of the most attractive plants at the Horticultural Society's May exhibition. The letter-press comprises articles on a variety of interesting subjects connected with horticulture and floriculture. A very good number.

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TAYLOR'S BEE-KEEPER'S MANUAL. *Groombridge & Sons, London.*

A MOST useful little book, which no one who has a hive of bees should be without. It abounds in wood-cuts, showing the most approved hives; and minutely relates everything connected with *bee management.* We have something like half a score "stocks" ourselves, and as they have commenced swarming, it is more than likely we shall have a row of at least twenty-five or thirty hives by the end of the season. This book has been, therefore, the most acceptable we have had sent us for a long time.

Part III.

QUERIES.

There is a disease amongst my onions, which causes them to blow, or swell, and go off. Can you tell me the cause of it, and likewise give a remedy? By so doing you will confer a great favour. R. B. H.

A Tyro will be obliged by Mr. Wood informing him *how long false pods* have been DEFECTS. Up to the publication of the Oxford manifesto, a Tyro, in his simplicity, had considered a *false pod* a FRAUD. Locke defines a defect as "*any* NATURAL *imperfection;* a blemish, a failure." It is too bad. These *university* gentlemen display such an ignorance of the great philosopher.

The writer having noticed in the April number of the *Midland Florist*, the information to the working man, relative to the use made of the small greenhouse, and the cost of its alteration (£5 17s. 6d.) is induced to beg of the editor to suggest the most effectual as well as economical mode of employing the limited pecuniary means and space at command (the latter being only seventy-two square feet, and that in the flower garden), for a structure adapted to the wintering of an amateur's mixed collection—verbenas, fuchsias, pot roses; and it would be highly desirable, if practicable, to have the frame or pit so constructed as to admit of one end being apportioned for a tank, hot water pipe, or some kind of bottom heat; thereby enabling one to strike cuttings, break fuchsias, or nurse

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young stock, and that at a time when it may not be convenient to build a dungbed. You will perhaps be good enough to supply what the mind's eye cannot, or else write that the two-fold object is unattainable in so small a space.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JULY.

FLOWER GARDEN.

THE increase of what are termed bedding plants has now rendered the embellishment of beds a matter of easy accomplishment. It will not only be necessary to give them considerable attention as to tying and watering, but likewise as to pegging down shoots and pinching off their extremities, to induce a lateral or bushy growth. For instance, *verbenas*, than which, for small beds, there are not more beautiful things grown, must be treated thus. Some of the tall-growing or robust varieties, particularly require this attention, or they become long-jointed and straggling. The *cupheas*, particularly *C. platycentra*, from their bushy growth, may generally be left to themselves; whilst *Salvia patens* and *Salvia patens alba* will be better stopped and pegged down, by which means, though naturally tall, they may be made to assume the habit of dwarf plants, and thus are very pretty. The dwarf-growing *lobelias* may be allowed to take their natural mode of growth, forming dense patches of blue and white flowers. Part of the *pentstemons* may be allowed to grow erect, whilst others, laid down on their sides, may thus be dwarfed, and will form first-rate plants for masses. Some of these are tall, as *P. gigantea elegans*; others, like *P. gentianoides* and *M'Ewenii*, are of much more dwarf character; thus giving those who pay attention to height, arrangement, &c. an opportunity of creating a fine effect, only destroyed by the autumnal frosts. The little *anagallis* must not be forgotten: lowly in habit, and abundantly floriferous, it is, when under the sun's influence, a mass of blue, purple, or scarlet, as the variety may be. The *summer climbing plants* must be neatly trained to either wire trellises or stakes. For this purpose, there are the *lothospermums* (Cliftonii is beautiful), *Maurandia Barclayana*, the *tropœolums* (of which there are now many nice varieties, yellow, scarlet, crimson, orange, green), &c. We recollect *T. pentaphyllum* once making very luxuriant growth, without any symptoms of flowering. With a spade, we cut through the roots all round, a distance of nine inches from the stem; the effect was magical; in ten days abundance of buds were

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formed, and through the autumn the plant was a dense mass of beauty. These things, with *antirrhinums*, *calceolarias*, &c. in the open border, are often attacked by the green fly. To ensure beauty, after all other attentions are given, it will be necessary to keep these pests down. Brown's patent fumigator may be applied with success. Take a peck pot, place it over the plant to be operated upon, cork up the hole, insert the nozzle of the fumigator into a small hole, which you must previously drill in the side of the pot, and a few turns of the handle will fill it with smoke, when a cork may be introduced into the hole. This plan could be put into practice anywhere, and a man, with a dozen of these pots, would soon clear a large collection. Perhaps it would not be necessary to make a hole in the side, but turn the nozzle downwards, and drive the smoke in at the orifice of the inverted pot, cork up until the insects were destroyed, and the hole would then serve for the operator to insert his finger in, to remove the pot to the next infected plant.

Annuals must also undergo their share of supervision, thinning, watering, &c. Many are apt to become *weedy*. They are not so well adapted for ornamental gardening as the half hardy perennial plants.

Hollyhocks should be carefully staked, and where too many spikes have risen, they should be thinned out.

Perennials of straggling growth, such as *potentillas*, are not best secured to sticks; both these and *phloxes*, the varieties of *Pæonia alba*, and other plants liable to be blown over by rough winds, are better by having wire cradles placed over them, and being allowed to grow up inside; the shoots may then be attached to the circular rim of wire, thus allowing all the flowers a free circulation, and prolonging their beauty a much longer period.

GREENHOUSE.

An indispensable requisite for all houses glazed with sheet glass was a cover of calico. This, however, is now superseded by Hetley's rough plate, which obstructs the direct rays of the sun, and as experience proves, possesses very great advantages over the other. The house ought to be gay with *cockscombs*, *balsams*, *fuchsias*, &c. Great attention must be paid to watering, fumigating, &c. It is seldom that plants can be grown *very well* under vines, especially when, as was the case the other day, in a house that we visited, so many rods are retained that the foliage completely covers the plants with a green canopy.

Cuttings of many *greenhouse plants* may be put in. *Geraniums* require only to be placed in light soil, in the open border, fully exposed to the sun, to root readily. Many amateurs propagate for amusement, and except for this, plants are so cheaply

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purchased of the trade, that it is hardly worth while being at the trouble.

Roses will now be in full beauty. Geant des Battailles, H.P. has been in great perfection with us. The colour is splendid, and the habit and foliage excellent. Many roses have come with hard centres this season. Thinning the buds, and removing the decayed flowers, with Turner's improved pruning scissors, will be the requisite attention they will require. Stocks may be budded towards the latter end of the month.

This is the month in which *carnations* and *picotees* flower. If for exhibition, the buds must be thinned according to the strength of the plants; some will only carry one, whilst others will bring two in great perfection. These will require tying round. We have always found thread rubbed with bees' wax best for this purpose, for after passing it round the pod two or three times, the ends may be twisted between the finger and thumb, and will retain their hold; and as the pods swell, if necessary to *ease* them, it can easily be done, without the trouble of untying. Layering may be done towards the latter end of the month, choosing the longest shoots first.

Tulips should be taken up as soon as the foliage turns yellow. They should be placed in paper bags, or in the drawers assigned for them, with the fibres and loose skin attached to them. It is not advisable to remove them till thoroughly dry.

Dahlias.—These will require considerable attention: thinning, watering, mulching with rotten manure, tying out the lateral shoots, entrapping earwigs, &c.

Ranunculuses.—As soon as the foliage turns yellow, take the roots up. It will not be requisite to wait till the whole bed is ready, for it is possible that some may be fading whilst others are green; take them up then as they are ready, for they are easily excited, and if that happen, it causes serious detriment.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Full crops of *celery* must be planted out. That wanted early, or required for exhibition, will require manure water. A good article on the growth of this favourite vegetable appeared in our last number.

Where *kidney potatoes* come off, *broccoli*, *Brussels sprouts*, &c. should be planted out, advantage being taken of rainy weather, if possible.

Peas may be tried, but not later than the first week; and spare ground may be cropped with *Green Barrel* or *Snowball Turnips*.

Plant out *strawberry runners*, as soon as ready. *Pear trees* on walls, *currant trees*, &c. may be pinched; in fact, much winter nailing may now be saved by a judicious application of the finger and thumb.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the George IV. Hotel, Northampton, Wednesday, April 24.

Best Eight Auriculas, Two of each Class.—Leigh's Colonel Taylor (fine), Lightbody's Star of Bethlehem (extra fine), Ashton's Bonny Lass, Taylor's Glory, Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, Page's Waterloo, Barker's Nonsuch, and Kenyon's Freedom, Mr. B. Vialls. 2. Booth's Freedom, Dickson's Duke of Wellington, Taylor's Favourite, Popplewell's Conqueror, Waterhouse's Conqueror of Europe, Kenyon's Ringleader, Parker's Metropolitan, and Netherwood's Othello, Mr. I. Rabbitt.

Best Four Auriculas, One of each Class.—Page's Champion, Thorpe's Magpie, Beeston's Fair Flora, and Dickson's Apollo, Mr. B. Vialls. 2. Hogg's Waterloo, Lee's Earl Grosvenor, Schole's Generalissimo, and Headley's Royal Purple, Mr. B. Vialls.

Best Specimen of any Class.—Cheetham's Lancashire Hero (extra fine), Mr. B. Vialls.

Best Six Polyanthuses.—Turner's Bonaparte, Yorkshire Regent, Princess Royal, Buck's George IV., Pearson's Alexander, and Faulkner's Black Prince, Mr. I. Rabbitt. 2. Collier's Princess Royal, Cox's Prince Regent, Buck's George IV., Bullock's Lancer, Hufton's Lord Rancliffe, and Hudson's Rubens, Mr. B. Vialls.

AURICULA SHOW,

At Mr. Thomas Barber's, Manor House Inn, Darley-street, Bradford, April 29.

Premier Prize.—Colonel Taylor, I. Clayton.

Green edged.

1 Litton's Imperator, I. Normington.
2 Morris Green Hero, ditto.
3 Oliver's Lovely Ann, I. Clayton.
4 Pollit's Standard, I. Speak.
5 Jolly Tar, I. Clayton.
6 Highland Laddie, ditto.

Grey-edged.

1 Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, I. Clayton.
2 Fletcher's Mary Ann, ditto.
3 Sykes's Complete, ditto.
4 Kenyon's Ringleader, ditto.
5 Kent's Queen Victoria, ditto.
6 Kent's Privateer, ditto.

White-edged.

1 Hepworth's Briton, I. Normington.
2 Lee's Bright Venus, I. Clayton.
3 Cheetham's Countess Wilton, J. Wood
4 Somerscale's Catherina, I. Clayton.
5 Ashworth's Regular, I. Normington.
6 Lord of Hallamshire, J. Speak.

Selfs.

1 Redman's Metropolitan, I. Normington
2 Clegg's Blue Bonnet, I. Normington.
3 Netherwood's Othello, I. Clayton.
4 Oddy's Rest, A. Whitehead.
5 Grimes's Florist Flag, I. Speak.
6 Berry's Lord Primate, ditto.

Alpines.

1 Edmonson's Lady Sarah (seedling) I. Normington.
2 Fair Rosamond, A. Whitehead.
3 Fair Ellen, I. Clayton.
4 Seedling, I. Normington.
5 Ditto, ditto.
6 Chocolate, A. Whitehead.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Pearson's Alexander, I. Clayton.
2 Marris's Beauty of England, J. Wood.
3 Gibbons's Royal Sovereign, I. Clayton.
4 Craggy's Highland Mary, J. Normington.
5 Crownshaw's Exile, ditto.
6 Lord Lincoln, ditto.

LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY.

At the Golden Cock Inn.

The premium for the best bloom was awarded to Mr. Wm. Dobbings, for his splendid specimen, Ne plus ultra.

First Pan of Auriculas.—Imperator, Ne plus ultra, Potts's Regulator, and Lord Lee, W. Dobbings. 2. Lovely Ann, Complete, Venus, Flag, J. Bramma. 3. Imperator, Complete, Venus, and Othello, J. Fryer.

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Green-edged.
1 Imperator, W. Dobbings.
2 Lovely Ann, W. Dobbings.
3 Lady Ann Wilbraham, J. Bramma.
4 Pollock's Standard, J. Fryer.
5 Lord Nelson, W. Dobbings.
6 Waterloo, J. Fryer.

Grey-edged.
1 Ne plus ultra, W. Dobbings.
2 Complete, ditto.
3 Ringleader, J. Fryer.
4 Mary Ann, J. Bramma.
5 Lord Hallamshire, J. Fryer.
6 Lovely Ann, ditto.

White-edged.
1 Venus, W. Dobbings.
2 Taylor's Glory, J. Bramma.
3 Favourite, ditto.
4 Potts's Regulator, W. Dobbings.
5 Catherine, J. Bramma.
6 Pillar of Beauty, J. Fryer.

Selfs.
1 Othello, J. Fryer.
2 Lord Lee, W. Dobbings.
3 Oddy's Rest, J. Fryer.
4 'Squire Mundy, W. Dobbings.
5 Apollo, J. Bramma.
6 Flag, ditto.

Alpines.
1 Seedling, J. Fryer.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Fair Rosamond, ditto.
4 Seedling, J. Fryer.
5 Conspicuous, W. Dobbings.
6 Seedling, J. Fryer.

POLYANTHUSES.

Dark Ground.
1 Lord Rancliffe, J. Fryer.
2 Seedling, J. Bramma.
3 Crownshaw's Exile, ditto.
4 Sovereign, ditto.
5 Seedling, ditto.
6 Ditto ditto.

Red Ground.
1 Lord Rancliffe, J. Fryer.
2 George IV., J. Bramma.
3 Seedling, I. Bailey.
4 Bullock's Lancer, ditto.
5 Sovereign, J. Bramma.
6 Regent, ditto.

The judges were Messrs. I. Rhodes, I. Bastow, and P. Ratcliffe, who gave entire satisfaction to all the competitors.

NOTTINGHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

May 22, at the Exchange Rooms, Nottingham.

TULIPS.

Twelve Blooms.—Rose Camilla, seedling, Vivid, Captain White, seedling, Lilliard, Reed's Zoolite, Surpasse Bienfait, Paul Pry, Captain Sleigh, Lord Milton, and seedling, T. Gibbons. 2. Shakspere, Agricola, Unique, Abercrombie, Thackeray's No. 6, Flamed Platoff, Flamed Lady Middleton, Joe Maltby, Incomparable le Grande, Sable Rex, Queen Charlotte, and Lawrence's Friend, J. Brown. 3 Captain White, Royal Sovereign, Gibbons's Madonna, Bishop of York, Brown's Platoff, Dutch Catafalque, Lady Middleton, Rose Unique, Sable Rex, Trafalgar, Sharp's Seedling, and Lord Milton, S. Moore. 4 Milton, Captain White, Titian, Sancho, Blanche, Guido, Lac, Lady Middleton, Wilmot, Napoleon, Osiris, and Sovereign, Mr. Tongue.

PANSIES.

Twenty Blooms.—1. Major's Milton, Lady Laura, Turner's Gem, Duchess of Rutland, Thomson's Elegant, Thomson's Affable, Bell's Climax, Notabilis, Neilson's Magnificent, Bell's Duke of Norfolk, Lord John Russell, Scother's Lucy Neal, Great Britain, Constellation, Bell's Hector, Aurora, Supreme, Lakin's Yellow Standard, Bishop of Oxford, and Lanell, J. Gibbons. 2. Duke of Norfolk, Attraction, Curion, Jupiter, Black Prince, Earl of Zetland, Pizarro, Excellent, Optimus, Over Newton, Richard I., Blue Fringe, Mrs. Harcourt, Sir Robert Peel, and six seedlings Messrs. Pearson. 3. Sir R. Peel, Duke of Norfolk, Tongue's Sambo, Tongue's Violet, Hector, Climax, Magnet, Lucy Neal, Tryphosa, Aurora, Tongue's Seedling Unique, Fabius, Enchantress, Supreme, Excellent, Faire Maide, Pliny, Constellation, and Two seedlings, Mr. Tongue.

A first-class prize was awarded to Mr. Nevill, for a seedling pansy, named Prince Arthur.

TULIP SHOW,

At the Windmill Inn, Carrington, Cheshire, May 23.

M.P.—Bienfait (feathered byblœmen), J. Smith.
P.P.—Sovereign (feathered bizarre), Peter Daine.

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P.P.—Lustre de Beauty (flamed bizarre), E. Dean.
P.P.—Bienfait (feathered byblœmen), J. Smith.
P.P.—Atlas (flamed byblœmen), J. Thorniley.
P.P.—Huntress (feathered rose), R. Dickson.
P.P.—Vesta (flamed rose), J. L. Richardson.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Trafalgar, H. Daine.
2 Crown Prince, E. Dean.
3 Surpass Catafalque, ditto.
4 Goud Beurs, ditto.
5 Duke of Devonshire, J. Thorniley.
6 Unknown, ditto.
7 Wellington, P. Daine.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Surpass Lacantique, J. L. Richardson
2 San Joe, P. Daine.
3 Trafalgar, H. Daine.
4 Common Lacantique, J. L. Richardson
5 Charles X., E. Dean.
6 Careless, H. Daine.
7 Pilot, E. Dean.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero, E. Dean.
2 Sir H. Pottinger, J. Thorniley.
3 Duc de Bordeaux, E. Dean.
4 Ambassador van Holland, ditto.
5 Buckley's 46, J. Thorniley.
6 Louis Seedling, J. Lansley.
7 Washington, J. Ackerley.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Adelaide, P. Daines.
2 Bienfait, C. Wych.
3 Maitre Partout, E. Dean.
4 Diana Buren, ditto.
5 Baguet, C. Wych.
6 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Thorniley.
7 Sable Rex, J. Ackerley.

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte de Vergennes, J. Thorniley.
2 Lady Crewe, P. Daine.
3 Andromeda, E. Dean.
4 Dolittle ditto.
5 Roi de Cerise, ditto.
6 Holden's Rose, J. Lansley.
7 Lord Hill, J. Ackerley.

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, E. Dean.
2 Lady Crewe, ditto.
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
4 Regina, J. Thorniley.
5 Ponce Brilliant, ditto.
6 Walworth, E. Dean.
7 Lord Hill, J. Thorniley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Ackerley.
2 Ditto, J. Smith.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Sir Henry Pottinger, C. Wych.
2 Unknown, ditto.

Rose Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Thorniley.
2 Huntress, R. Dickson.

Selfs.

Min d'Or, H. Daine.
White Flag, ditto.

The onerous duties of judging were discharged to the general satisfaction of the exhibiters, by Messrs. Joseph Clegg, Middleton; Robert Taylor, Oldham; and William Ratcliff, Leigh.

GREAT NORTHERN TULIP SHOW,

Held at the Corn Exchange, Manchester, Tuesday, May 28.

Rectified Flowers.—1st Pan. Charles X., Polyphemus, Lancashire Hero, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Unique, W. Prescott, Lowton. 2. Royal Sovereign, Polyphemus, Maid of Orleans, Princess Royal, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, J. Gibbons, Chellaston. 3. Charles X., Captain White, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Gibbons's Seedling, and Queen Charlotte, J. Thorniley, Heaton Norris. 4. Pass Perfecta, Captain White, Eclipse, La Bien Emma, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale, J. Lakin, Derby.

Breeder Cup.—1. J. Ackerley. 2. T. Adams. 3. J. Goolden Heap, Esq.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., George Holland.
2 Polyphemus, W. Marsden.
3 Duke of Hamilton, T. Adams.
4 Goud Beurs, R. Prescott.
5 Mayor of Manchester, B. Haigh.
6 Emp. Charles, Mr. Haigh, Fallowfield
7 Duc de Savoy, J. Wood.
8 Surpasse Catafalque, R. Prescott.
9 Lord Melbourne, Mr. Naylor.
10 Paul Pry, T. Moss.
11 Crown Prince, D. Moors.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, T. Chippendale.
2 Lord Stanley, J. Hewitt.
3 Polyphemus, T. Appleton, Liverpool
4 Cyclops, J. Heap, Royton.
5 Pilot, W. Peacock, Esq.
6 Paul Pry, J. Massey, Esq. Denton.
7 Prime Minister, J. Slater.
8 Page's King, W. Marsden.
9 Admiral Benbow, J. Slater.
10 Josephus, G. Moet.
11 Lord Provost Hastie, R. Dixon.
12 Albion, J. G. Heap, Esq.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Sable Monarch, T. Adams, Derby.
2 Lancashire Hero, W. Prescott.
3 Baguet, J. Ackerley.
4 Beauty, J. Bramley.

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5 Bienfait, J. Slater.
6 Louis XVI., W. Prescott.
7 Washington, George Mort.
8 Mango, T. Wilcock.
9 Edgar, J. Naylor.
10 Imperatrix Florum, W. Marsden.
11 Princess Royal, T. Adams.
12 Deringborough, R. Prescott.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Charlotte, W. Prescott.
2 Princess Royal, J. Gibbons.
3 Violet Walkers, J. Ackerley.
4 Bienfait, T. Appleton, Liverpool.
5 Groom's Violet Blanche, J. Thornley.
6 Van Amburgh, J. Gibbons.
7 Lord Denman, J. Lakin.
8 Mango, William Collier.
9 Holmes's Qu. Charlotte, J. Thornley.
10 Gibbons's Salvator, W. Parkinson.
11 Unknown, J. Peacock, Esq. Denton.
12 Ebony, W. Peacock, Esq.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Thornley.
2 Comte de Vergennes, W. Prescott.
3 Aglaia, J. Thornley.
4 Lady Crewe, P. Daine.
5 Unknown, J. Peacock, Esq.
6 Sir H. Pottinger, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Andromeda, G. Mort.
8 Walworth, J. Thornley.
9 Duc de Bronte, R. Prescott.
10 Jupiter, J. Naylor.
11 Queen Katherine, Rev. S. Creswell.
12 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Naylor.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, J. Gibbons.
2 La Vandikken, J. Peacock, Esq.
3 Aglaia, J. Cato.
4 Rose Unique, J. Hewitt.
5 Rose Camillus, J. Thornley.
6 Lady Wilmott, Rev. S. Creswell.
7 Lady Stanley, W. Parkinson.
8 Rose Elegans, J. Thornley,
9 Rose Tertia, J. Peacock, Esq,
10 Manteau Ducal, John Slater.
11 Rose Vesta, J. Haigh.
12 Comte de Vergennes, J. Bramley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Shakspere, S. Cox.
2 Earl Radnor. J. Slater.
3 No. 9, J. Peacock, Esq.
4 Pilot, J. Thornley.
5 Duke of Hamilton, J. Peacock, Esq.
6 Adrian, J. Slater.
7 No. 8, J. Peacock, Esq.
8 John o'Gaunt, J. Slater.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Sir H. Pottinger, P. Dain.
2 Princess Royal, J. Gibbons.
3 Queen of the North, C. Wyche.
4 Sancta Sophia, S. Cox.
5 Democrat, J Battersby.
6 Perfection, J. Lakin.
7 Seedling, J Battersby.
8 Unknown, J. Peacock.

Rose Breeders.

1 Ne plus ultra, J. Ackerley.
2 Lady Lilford, T. Wilcock.
3 Unknown, T. Appleton.
4 King of Scarlets, W. Peacock, Esq.
5 Queen Philippa, T. Chippendale.
6 Lady Fanshaw, J. Slater.
7 Vashti, ditto.
8 Newcastle, S. Ardern.

GREAT NORTHERN TULIP SHOW.

At the Belle Vue Gardens, near Manchester, 29th May.

Pans of Six Rectified Tulips.—1. Royal Sovereign, Captain White, Britannia, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. Thos. Houghton, Hempshall, near Nottingham. 2. Charles X., Polyphemus, Maid of Orleans, Princess Royal, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. John Gibbons, Chellaston, Derbyshire. To these two pans the silver cups were awarded. 3. Charles X., Baguet, La Bienaimee, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. Godfrey, Chellaston, Derbyshire. 4. San Joe, Gibbons's Seedling, Incomparable, Heroine, and Ponceau Brilliant, J. Thornley, Esq., Stockport. 5. Charles X., Charbonnier Noir, Baguet, Bienfait, Heroine, and Alexander le Roi, G. W. Hardy, Esq. Warrington.

Pans of Three Breeders.—1. Sir Thomas Picton, Lady Stanley, and Violet le Grande, G. W. Hardy, Esq. 2. Catafalque, Lord Derby, and Queen of the North, Mr. Ackerley, Altrincham. 3. Pilot, Orleans, and Lord Derby, Mr. Gibbons, Chellaston. 4 Pioneer, Lord Stanley, and Lady Flora Hastings, Mr. Parkinson, Derby. 5. Bizarre (unknown), Byblœmen (unknown), and Amelia, Mr. John Smith, Derby.

Best Pan of Gibbons's Seedlings.—Mr. Wm. Astle, Melbourne.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., J. Thornley, Esq.
2 Catafalque, Mr. Houghton.
3 Polyphemus, Mr. Marsden.
4 Emperor Charles, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
5 Grand Duke, Mr. John Smith.
6 Goud Beurs, Mr. James Hardman.
7 Lord Lilford, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
8 Sydney, Mr. Bromiley.
9 San Joe, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
10 Mayor of Warrington, G. W. Hardy.
11 Dentonian, Mr. Naylor.
12 Trafalgar, Mr. Peter Daine.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
2 Lord Milton, Rev. S. Creswell.
3 Charbonnier Noir, Mr. E. Dean.
4 Page's King, Mr. Marsden.

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5 Captain White, Mr. Astle.
6 Prime Minister, Mr. Slater.
7 Unknown, Mr. Bramma.
8 Captain Sleigh, J. Thornley, Esq.
9 Shakspere, Mr. Bromiley.
10 Leopold, J. Thornley, Esq.
11 Catafalque, Mr. E. Dean.
12 Truth, Mr. Nunnerley.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Sable Monarch, Mr. T. Adams.
2 Baguet, Mr. Ackerley.
3 Bienfait, Mr. W. Alsop.
4 Chellaston Beauty, Mr. T. Adams.
5 Firstrate, Mr. Haughton.
6 Lancashire Hero, Mr. E. Dean.
7 Elegance, Rev. S. Creswell.
8 Buckley's Forty-six, Mr. Gibbons.
9 Gibbons's Unknown, J. Thornley.
10 Ditto ditto.
11 Edgar, Mr. Naylor.
12 David, Mr. Bramma.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Charlotte, Mr. J. Hardman.
2 Violet Wallers, Mr. Ackerley.
3 La Bienaimee, Mr. Godfrey.
4 Lord Denman, Mr. Astle.
5 Van Amburgh, Mr. Gibbons.
6 Princess Royal, Mr. Gibbons.
7 Blanche Violet, J. Thornley, Esq.
8 Incomparable, Mr. Lymberry.
9 Bienfait, Mr. E. Dean.
10 Democrat, Mr. Hardy.
11 General Barneveldt, Mr. Draper.
12 Unknown, Mr. Parkinson.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Parkinson.
2 Lady Crewe, Mr. Peter Dean.
3 Aglaia, Mr. Thornley.
4 Comte de Vergennes, Mr. Parkinson.
5 Andromeda, Ald. Lowe.
6 Midland Beauty, J. Thornley, Esq.
7 Jupiter, Mr. Naylor.
8 Walworth, Mr. Richardson.
9 Queen Katherine, Rev. S. Creswell.
10 Lightcliffe Beauty, Mr. Hinscliffe.
11 Duc de Bronte, Mr. Richardson.
12 Lady Gray, Mr. Edward Dean.

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, Mr. Parkinson.
2 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Alsop.
3 Alexander le Roi, Ald. Hardy.
4 Iphigene, Mr. Lymberry.
5 Vandikken, J. W. Hardy, Esq.
6 Rose Unique, Mr. Lymberry.
7 Rose Camillus, Rev. S. Creswell.
8 Emily, Mr. Lymberry.
9 Lady Wilmot, Rev. S. Creswell.
10 Rose Lac, Mr. Johnston.
11 Queen Philippa, Mr. Heap.
12 Lady Lilford, Mr Bromiley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Mr. Astle.
2 John o'Gaunt, Mr. Slater.
3 Seedling No. 1, Rev. S. Creswell.
4 Ambition, Mr. Slater.
5 Columbus, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
6 Earl of Radnor, Mr. Parkinson.
7 Polyphemus, Mr. Gibbons.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Purple Perfection, Mr. John Knott.
2 Criterion, Mr. Parkinson.
3 Sir Henry Pottinger, Mr. P. Dean.
4 Bijou, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
5 Violet le Grande, Mr. Parkinson.
6 Princess Royal, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
7 Ada, Mr Slater.

Rose Breeders.

1 Rose of Sharon, Mr. Parkinson.
2 Anastasia, Alderman Lowe.
3 Kate Connor, G. W. Hardy, Esq.
4 Lord Stanley, Mr. T. Adams.
5 Amelia, Mr. Naylor.
6 Lord Derby, Mr. Edward Dean.
7 Lady Lilford, Mr. Naylor.

Extra Prizes.—For the best feathered flower in the exhibition, Charles X. J. Thornley, Esq. Best flamed flower, Polyphemus, Mr. Gibbons. Best breeder, Pilot, Mr. Astle. Captain M'Donald Brown's prizes were awarded to Messrs. Ackerley, of Altrincham; John Hague, of Fallowfield; Alsop, of Stockport; Lymberry, of Hyson Green, near Nottingham; John Knott, of Gorton; and D. Woolley, of Stockport.

TULIP SHOW,

At Oldham, Lancashire, Thursday, May 30.

Judges.—Mr. U. Chadwick, Dukinfield; and Mr. T. Leech, Hooley Hill.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Catafalque, S. Cocks.
2 Charles X., W. Matley.
3 Sir Sidney Smith, S. Cocks.
4 San Joe, ditto.
5 Crown Prince, J. Heap.
6 Waterloo, ditto.
7 Royal Gem, S. Cocks.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lord Milton, J. Boardman.
2 Cyclops, J. Heap.
3 San Joe, J. Boardman.
4 Lustre, W. Matley.
5 Albion, W. Taylor.
6 Paul Pry, W. Matley.
7 Charles X., S. Collins.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Unknown, J. Taylor.
2 Beauty, S. Cocks.
3 Violet Amiable, ditto.
4 Bienfait, J. Newton.
5 Violet Winner, W. Taylor.
6 Baguet, W Matley.
7 Bacchus, S. Cocks.

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Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Smithies.
2 Bacchus, J. Taylor.
3 Incomparable, S. Cocks.
4 Beauty, ditto.
5 Czarina, ditto.
6 Unknown, B. Hilton.
7 Sable Rex, S. Cocks.

Feathered Roses.
1 Bion, J. Smithies.
2 Heroine, W. Bentley.
3 Lady Crewe, S. Cocks.
4 Comte de Vergennes, J. Smithies.
5 Andromeda, ditto.
6 Duchess of Newcastle, W. Matley.
7 Bacchus, S. Cocks.

Flamed Roses.
1 Unique, J. Heap,
2 Vesta, W. Matley.
3 Triomphe Royale, S. Cocks.
4 Vainceur, S. Cocks.
5 Aglaia, J. Heap.
6 Reine des Fleurs, ditto.
7 La Vandikken, J. Boardman.

Selfs.
White Flag, D. Moore.
Min d'Or, S. Cocks.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Seedling, L. Ashmole.
2 Catafalque, J. Wild.
3 Cyclops, J. Heap.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Sir H. Pottinger, S. Cocks.
2 Sancta Sophia, ditto.
3 Seedling, ditto.

Rose Breeders.
1 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Heap.
2 Lady Crewe, W. Bentley.
3 Seedling, W. Matley.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Thomas Smith's, General Wolfe Inn, North-gate, Blackburn, June 1.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., T. Hollingworth.
2 Emperor Charles, John Bramley.
3 Duke of Devonshire, T. Hollingworth
4 Fabius, R. Barlow.
5 Catafalque Superieur, I. Hadfield.
6 Northern Hero, J. Tomlinson,

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, J. Bramley.
2 Albion, ditto.
3 Charbonnier, T. Hollingworth.
4 Duke of Lancaster, Z. Walsh.
5 Paganini, J. Bramley.
6 Rufus, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, H. Ashworth.
2 Lewold, J. Bramley.
3 Gibbons's 88, ditto.
4 La Belle Narene, ditto.
5 De Maroc, H. Ashworth.
6 Buckley's Beauty, J. Bramley.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Gibbons's 88, J. Bramley.
2 Sable Monarch, T. Houldsworth.
3 Baguet, I. Hadfield.
4 Grace Darling, J. Bramley.
5 La Belle Narene, ditto.
6 Bienfait, ditto.

Feathered Roses.
1 La Belle Nanette, J. Bramley.
2 Lady Crewe, J. Bramley.
3 Dolittle, ditto.
4 Walworth, R. Barlow.
5 Andromeda, H. Ashworth.
6 Comte de Vergennes, T. Hollingworth

Flamed Roses.
1 Unique, H. Ashworth.
2 Aglaia, J. Bramley.
3 Vesta, H. Ashworth.
4 Lady Stanley, J. Bramley.
5 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
6 La Vandikken, I. Hadfield.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 John o'Gaunt, J. Bramley.
2 Cato, R. Barlow.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Lady Seymour, I. Hadfield.
2 Sir Henry Pottinger, T. Hollingworth

Rose Breeders.
1 Lady Stanley, R. Barlow.
2 Princess Sophia of Gloucester, I. Hadfield.

Selfs.
1 Yellow, H. Ashforth.
2 White, T. Hollingworth.

Doubles.
1 De ma Fille, T. Hollingworth.
2 Burr, J. Tomlinson.
3 Beauty of England, R. Barlow.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

HINTS ON PERENNIALS.

I AM extremely fond of that department of Flora's kingdom which includes perennial herbaceous plants, and as I well know that many of your readers are equally partial to them with myself, though perhaps without the opportunity of seeing so many, I shall beg to trespass a little on your pages, to talk of my favourites, trusting that it may induce others to be equally communicative, so that in your publication a constant stream of interesting information may be kept up.

Now do you not think the potentillas a beautiful tribe? I do; and P. Garneriana, with its sulphur-coloured petals, and crimson blotch at the base of each, is peculiarly interesting. I have seen in the *Midland Florist* a hint for plants of this description to be grown in wire cradles—tree guards in miniature—and by being put over early, the shoots assume a natural and easy position, exhibiting their abundant and beautiful blooms in great perfection. It is indeed a good plan. I know some nice seedlings have been raised, both in Lancashire and Yorkshire. I have not seen P. Smouthii, though I have the plant, but I learn that it is distinctly striped.

Then there are the pæonias. What more gorgeous plant is there than the large Double Crimson, with its magnificent flowers? But in the section termed Alba, there are very many beautiful things. The foliage is not so coarse as in those belonging to the P. officionalis and its family. The Sweet-scented Chinese Pæony was figured many years ago, if I recollect right, in the *Horticultural Society's Transactions*. I have grown it a long time, and cannot,

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under any treatment, make it bloom freely. It is as fragrant as the rose; but its periods of flowering are, alas! like angels' visits, "few and far between." Not so, however, with P. Whitlegii, a very beautiful and distinct double white, with large and attractive flowers. The leaves and stems are strongly marked, in their young state, with dark crimson. It grows upright, and will rise from two to three feet high. But P. festiva. Here I have been somewhat disappointed. It was to have had its petals edged with pink, and I had pictured to myself a pæony like a picotee! I think that foreign growers sometimes attach too much importance to trifles; giving names and flaming characters to seedlings which have *infinitessimal distinctions* ONLY perceptible truly to the initiated; but the mass of the flower-loving portion of the community, require the organ of vision more strongly developed to detect the difference between "a new comer and an old acquaintance." Now P. festiva puts me in mind of this. Thousands would call it the Double White. It is a deeper flower than Whitlegii, and good. On close examination, however, it will be found that the petals in the centre are edged with crimson. The foliage is good, and habit rather more dwarf than others of the same family. Then for a fine single variety, there is Pæonia albiflora grandiflora, with its large well-formed single white flowers, and the centre a mass of golden anthers. This is really a splendid variety. But how singularly cut is the foliage of Pæonia tennifolia flore pleno, which, either in or out of blossom, is extremely attractive. Its habit too is dwarf, and the flowers are produced early and in abundance, for generally each stalk is crowned with the double scarlet blossom. I have, with this, cultivated three other varieties of Pæonia tennifolia. I allude to Rosea, Insignis, and Latifolia, each of which are worthy of a place in the most choice collection. True, their flowers are single, but what beauty there is even in single blossoms! I had almost

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forgotten to allude to a splendid variety of Alba, from the Continent, P. albiflora superba. It has immense double flowers, the whole of the centre being pure white, whilst the guard leaves are the most delicate lilac imaginable. These plants require support, for I find, after a shower, their gorgeous heads of blossoms are so heavy, that they are soon blown over. I will now turn to another splendid plant. I mean the poppy. In some parts of the kingdom—on the chalk soils of Sussex and Hampshire, for instance, the wild poppy is a complete nuisance; but who is there that has seen the dazzling blooms of Papaver bracteata superbum, but will allow that it is a most noble and striking flower? Brilliant crimson orange. I do not belong to the "Knights of the Golden Hatchet," when I assert that I have had plants with twenty or thirty blooms expanded at once, and each as large as a *good-sized plate;* and then the singular contrast, a blotch of black, as big as a half-crown, at the base of each petal. I think I have seen in a calendar, this season, a recommendation to save all the seed of P. bracteata. This, I think, is needless, as it may be increased *ad infinitum* by small pieces of the root, or by offshoots, which it puts up in abundance. It is, in fact, when once in possession, rather difficult to eradicate. This puts me in mind of another beautiful plant, which is equally tenacious of its position. I mean the Lathyrus grandiflora. Now this is a beautiful climber, with its large pink and red pea-shaped blossoms. For covering a low trellis, running up amongst other plants, accommodating itself to almost any position, its hardiness and beauty combined, render it pre-eminent amongst the herbaceous pea flowers. Now many of your readers may know some of the plants which I have named; and my description will, I trust, induce them to get the others, which will not only give satisfaction to them, but also to your old friend,

H. S. M.

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DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SOUTH COUNTRY TULIPS.

BY J. DAVIDSON, ESQ. CAMDEN GROVE, PECKHAM.

Saint Celicia.—First-row byblœmen, of extraordinary character as to marking and colour; the marking a strong beam and abrupt flame, the colour somewhat a mixture of drab and violet. Mr. Headley has a byblœmen, his own breaking, with the same name; not having had the pleasure of ever seeing that gentleman's collection, I am uninformed if this be his or not.

Black Prince (Strong).—Third-row byblœmen. Dark flame. Unclean.

Antoinette or *Marie Antoinette* (Franklin).—First-row rose, flamed. Creamy ground. In a warm season, will bleach.

Desdemona.—Very neat. Third-row byblœmen.

Lachesis.—This is an imported root. It is of the Triomphe Royale family, the red not so dark, nor so fully marked; the feathering delicate and decidedly pretty. Stands second row.

Castrum Doloris.—Fourth-row bizarre. An old flower, of dark bold flame, now much neglected.

Cyclops (Groom).—Second-row bizarre, marking between the Pompe Charbonnier and Lawrence's Marcellus.

Betnal's Brulante Eclatante.—Undoubtedly a first-rate second-row rose; the ground pure white, and the marking beautifully and nicely pencilled.

Memnon (Clark).—Third or fourth-row bizarre. This is another dodge of the Polyphemus.

Moscow.—Second-row bizarre. Ground straw or creamy yellow, the marking delicate red. Of not much account. The petals are thin and collapse.

Rose Transparent.—First row. As the name indicates, the petals of this are transparent. In a very warm season, it approaches a rosy byblœmen.

Thalia.—A noble fourth-row byblœmen, well flamed. Rather late in the bloom.

Maid of Athens.—Another move of the above, and by many considered a superior flower.

Bienfait Incomparable.—A neat first-row byblœmen, much superior to the old Bienfait.

Captain Ross (Strong).—Third or fourth-row byblœmen. Heavy flame. It may not be in estimation with some, nevertheless, I think it bad policy to reject such flowers when they are clean; they enliven the contrast in the *coup d'œil* of the bed.

Rose Provinciale.—Second or third row. Highly coloured, rather pretty, but a sad sporter.

Prince William the Fourth.—A decent fourth-row flamed rose.

Duke of Richmond (Walker).—Third-row bizarre, well flamed.

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Duc de Bordeaux.—Second or third-row byblœmen. A bold and well-defined dark flame. This is worthy of being in every collection.

Rainbow (Strong).—Second-row byblœmen, flamed. Rather pretty.

FANCY GERANIUMS.

HAVING a small greenhouse, I have been led to attempt the culture of these very pretty plants, and having been tolerably successful, I am induced to send you a few notes on their cultivation, trusting that they may be acceptable to those of your readers who, like myself, have but little space to grow flowers in, and less time to attend to them. The great point is to obtain suitable compost; for without proper food, plants, like human beings, will not flourish or live. I got, then, two barrowloads of thin turf, which I pared from the roadside. It was of a loamy nature. This I piled up in the corner of my little garden, placing a layer of turf first with the grass side downwards. I then put a layer of rotten horse dung, from my old cucumber bed; then another layer of sod, and then manure again. A forked stick, about four feet high, was then inserted at each end of the heap, and another placed across them, over which I flung a garden mat, thus forming a sort of penthouse, to throw off the rain, and to keep off the sun. This was done early last September. In January, I chopped the heap to pieces, well incorporating the manure and soil, and exposing it to frost, but at all times keeping the mat over when it rained. In order to obtain vegetable soil, which I had not at hand, I took my mat-basket, and when opportunity served, got some rotten leaves out of the hedge bottoms, and very excellent stuff it is. I began with six plants, and they were in small pots. Early in March, I gave my compost heap another turn, breaking the lumps with the back of my spade, and took one peck,

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to which I added a peck of the rotten leaves before mentioned. I then procured some clean quart pots, and having placed at the bottom some crocks, or broken pots, over which I put a small quantity of moss, I filled them half full of the compost, and turning the little pots, with my "fancies" in them, upside down, I got them out with the ball entire. I carefully removed the old soil as much as possible without injuring the roots, and then placed them upright in the new pots, filling in and pressing gently with the compost to within half an inch of the top. I left this space, that in watering, sufficient might be held, without running over the side of the pot, to moisten the roots effectually. After potting, they underwent the usual treatment. I took care that my plants had a genial warmth, and that they were well attended to, as far as removing dead leaves, destroying the first and all the greenflies I could see, occasionally stirring the surface-soil, and watering them from a tub which stood under the stage in the greenhouse, so that the water was always of a nice temperature. As they grew, and before coming into flower, I gave them liquid manure, composed of two pecks of sheep dung to twenty gallons of water, which helped them amazingly. The foliage was green and healthy, the wood stout for the varieties, and the plants, though not very large, have been one mass of flowers, and were the admiration of all my neighbours.

I shall put down the names and colours of the six I have bloomed thus, and though they may get beaten or improved on, yet, as they are cheap, they will be suitable for one like myself, who is but

A WORKING MAN.

P.S.—Six sorts that will please most people.

Jehu Superb.—Crimson top petals, edged with blush; three lower, light pink, with crimson spot.

Maid of Anjou.—Pink, edged with blush; lower petals, pink spot.

Madame Grisi.—Dark crimson, edged with white; distinct dark crimson spot on the lower petals.

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Lady Rivers.—White, beautifully shaded with pink.
Belle Africane.—Not very good shape, but distinct dark crimson, and prettily marked.
Reine des Francois.—Deep pink and white, with large flowers. Good.

COPPICEANA.

No. VII.

FEW plants are more beautiful than the family we are about to describe; true, the flowers are all *pea-shaped,* but there is a great diversity of character in their mode of growth, colour, &c. We have a tolerable collection, and find them all beautiful. We have alluded to a few of them before, but in order to make these articles complete, and a safe guide to those who are anxious to embellish their gardens with hardy trees, shrubs, &c. we must endeavour to describe them.

CYTISUS.

C. Albus, better known as the White Portugal Broom, is an excellent shrub, with long, slender, upright branches, which, in the months of May and June, are covered with myriads of flowers. Bees are remarkably fond of working on them. It is raised easily and abundantly from seed, and is very hardy. It will graft on the laburnum, and thus make a very ornamental lawn tree; or as a dwarf it looks well in the back of a shrubbery, as it shoots up above the general run of evergreens. Price 6d. each.

C. Albus Incarnatus.—This is handsomer than the preceding, of which it is a variety. The back part of the flowers are bright pink, giving them a most beautiful appearance. As the expanded flowers are white, whilst the buds are of the before-named tint, they form a striking contrast when the whole plant is covered with a sheet of bloom. Our specimen plant is very large, forming a circle of fifteen yards, whilst the grafted plants are equally attractive. We raise it from layers, but it will come tolerably true from seed. Though they should not be sold before they have flowered, dwarf plants are worth 1s., and grafted standards from 3s. 6d. to 5s.

C. Scoparius Albus. (The Cream-coloured Broom.).—Why this is termed "albus" we do not know, as there is nothing

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white about it. The flowers are very pale buffish yellow; it is rather coarser and more spreading in its habit than the preceding varieties, but the blooms are produced in great profusion, and are pre-eminently beautiful. It is necessary to strike this from cuttings, as seedlings come with bright yellow flowers, reverting to the original. It forms a splendid mass, and for a bank is a most excellent plant. We have one on a slope, covered at this moment (June 28) with countless thousands of flowers. It also takes well on the laburnum. Dwarf plants are 1s. whilst standards are 3s. 6d. to 5s.

C. Scoparia Variegata.—The branches and leaves of this very pretty and interesting broom are striped with yellow, so that it is attractive at any season of the year, whether in or out of bloom. The flowers are bright yellow. We raise it from layers of the previous year's shoots. 1s. each.

C. Atropurpurea. (The Dark Purple Cytisus.)—We have now grown this several years, and find it a very distinct variety. It is erect in growth; the flowers are not so rosy as some of the other (so called) purples. When grafted standard high, and the shoots in the blooming season are covered their whole length with dark purplish lilac flowers, it has a first-rate appearance. Price for standards, 2s. 6d.

C. Purpurea Pendula. (The Weeping Purple Cytisus.)—As a contrast to the preceding, we would recommend this very graceful sort. The branches are even more pendulous than the weeping willow. We have it on a laburnum stem, twelve feet high, in a very exposed situation, and we hope some day to see it with branches hanging at least half way down the stock. The flowers are pinkish lilac, and are also produced in amazing quantities, the whole length of the branches. We propagate it by budding on the laburnum; it takes easily, and soon makes a good head. Standards, from three to four feet, 2s. 6d. each.

C. Purpurea Stricta. (The Upright Purple Cytisus.)—We see no difference between this and C. grandiflora. It is upright in habit, though as the branches are covered with flowers, they are weighed down to an horizontal position, whilst the young shoots grow upright from the centre, thus speedily forming a dense head. The flowers are rosy lilac, and the variety forms a good companion to the preceding sorts. Standards, 2s. 6d. each.

C. Purpurea Alba. (The White-flowering Purple Cytisus.)—This used to be as great a puzzle to us, when some years younger, as *the white black bird*, or *the white black currant*. We now know that the leaves and branches are smooth, like the purple-flowering sorts, to which it is nearest related, having most probably been raised from the seed of some one of those varieties, and thus belongs to this section of the

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family, though it has pure white flowers. It appears to be somewhat more delicate than its relatives, occasionally dying without any visible cause. It makes a very neat and attractive lawn tree. The branches are greenish white, or nearly cream colour, curving upwards. The flowers have a waxy appearance, are rather larger than the purple sorts, and produced more closely together. It buds on the laburnum, and thus is very beautiful. Occasionally the buds will remain dormant for twelve months, before making a shoot. Standard trees, 2s. 6d.

C. Purpurea Elongata. (The Long-flowering Purple Cytisus).—This is somewhat in the same predicament as the preceding, the flowers being of a dingy creamy colour. It is supposed to be a hybrid or cross-bred variety, between the yellow C. elongata and C. purpurea, but it has gained nothing in beauty by the hybridization, being inferior in attraction to either parent; nevertheless, it is an interesting plant, flowering amazingly, and contrasting well with every other sort. Standards, 2s. 6d.

There are also yellow-flowering species, which are very ornamental; such as

C. Elongata, with pendulous branches, the blossoms produced the whole length, and either as a dwarf or standard well adapted for the flower garden. This variety will graft well on the laburnum; it is raised either by layers or seeds. Dwarf plants, 6d. each; standards, 2s.

Those very beautiful though common plants, the laburnums, are included in this family. We have

C. Laburnum Parksii.—This, we believe, was raised at Deptford, and is a stout-growing variety, making very long shoots; in fact, assuming a weeping character. The bunches of flowers are also much longer than the species. Propagated by budding and grafting. Plants 1s. each.

C. Laburnum Involuta. (The Curled-leaved Laburnum.)—Except as a curiosity, or for an arboretum, this variety is hardly worth having, from the circumstance of its leaves being naturally curled and distorted. It appears as if it were suffering from the attacks of insects, and at all times looks unhealthy. The flowers are yellow, and produced in a similar manner to the old variety. Propagated by budding and grafting. Price 1s.

C. Laburnum Quercifolia. (The Oak-leaved Laburnum.)—This is a very interesting and pretty sort, growing uprightly, with a dense and close habit. The leaves are much laciniated, and are like those of the oak in miniature; the flowers are yellow, and are produced in great profusion. Increased by budding and grafting. Plants, 1s.

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C. Laburnum Adamii. (The pink-flowering Laburnum.)—We recollect, when this continental variety was first introduced, that it made a great commotion in the floricultural world, as the "Red-flowering Laburnum;" unfortunately, however, the blossoms are more curious than handsome, being of a somewhat dingy bronzy pink, a colour hardly to be described. There has been some difference as to its parentage, but the generally received opinion is, that it is a hybrid of the common laburnum and Cytisus purpurea; at all events, it is a most remarkable sport, for we have often seen the tree with three different sorts of flowers upon it. For instance, the Cytisus purpurea, with its small pink flowers, will break out on the branches, forming masses somewhat like the mistletoe; then again, though the purple variety has been worked or grafted, it will produce bunches of yellow flowers on the same branches with the purple ones; thus apparently evidencing that there were three separate influences at work in the same tree, It certainly is most curious, and every one who has room ought to grow it. Plants, 1s. each.

C. Laburnum Pendulum. (The Weeping Laburnum.)—A very graceful tree. When grafted on stems eight or nine feet high, with its long flexile branches reaching nearly to the ground, and covered with yellow flowers, it is really very beautiful. Price from 1s. 6d. to 3s. according to the age of the plant.

LAW OF GARDENS.

We think it right to lay before our readers the result of a trial in the Nottingham county court, on the 3rd of June—Sturdy *v.* Nutter. The case was simply this. About ten or eleven years ago, Mr. Sturdy let the defendant a cottage and orchard, in which it appears the latter planted a considerable number of gooseberry trees. In September last, owing to some quarrel, the plaintiff gave defendant notice to quit, also adding a written discharge, cautioning him against cutting down or destroying any of the trees. The defendant employed a market gardener, of Nottingham, to value the trees, and his valuation amounted to £30. It appears that no other person was called in at that time. The notice to quit expired on the 6th of April last, but previous to

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leaving, Mr. Nutter employed a number of men, who cut down the gooseberry trees in the orchard, supposing that as he planted them he had a right to do as he liked with them. We were sent for to Carlton, to investigate the matter, and certainly were astonished to see the devastation committed. The trees had been planted in rows for bearing, were full of blossom, and were very healthy and fine. We had before heard of such things being done, but never had we seen such destruction. There were one thousand and ninety trees cut down, besides about six hundred holes from which trees had been removed. The consequence was, *Sturdy* sued *Nutter* for £20, the highest amount the county court could take cognizance of.

The defendant pleaded he supposed he could do as he liked with the trees. The law, however, was against him, for after hearing our evidence and that of others, the judge decided that cutting down the trees was perfectly illegal, and awarded to Mr. Sturdy the full amount claimed, besides expenses.

Now how much better would it have been had Nutter taken some advice on the matter. However it might gratify vindictive feelings, still, if tenants were allowed to cut and destroy at pleasure, where would be *the safety of landlords?* though certainly we think that a fair remuneration ought to be allowed to the outgoing tenant, and that the law, as it *now stands*, requires alteration. A tenant cannot remove any trees or shrubs, *after he has had notice to quit*, though BULBS *may be removed at any time.*

In small gardens, such as we have near Nottingham, the matter is somewhat different, as they are bought and sold, like any other description of private property; but in a garden attached to a house, it would appear that when notice is either given or received, the plants pass to the landlord. *Though strictly legal*, it is a very hard case for the outgoing tenant.

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REMARKS ON NEW PINKS.

BY ALPHA.

HAVING grown the following newly-introduced pinks, I forward my remarks thereon, which probably will not be unacceptable to the admirers of this truly beautiful flower. I shall therefore commence with

Narborough Buck (M'Clean), which, in my opinion, is one of the finest pinks grown; its lacing is a rich dark crimson, evenly laid on a finely-formed petal. It is extremely constant in marking, but is rather inclined to blush, so that it requires careful shading. It has a short thick pod, which, with a little extra care, is easily managed. No cultivator ought to be without this fine variety. I have bloomed it two inches and a half across.

Lola Montes (Costar) was, I believe, let out last autumn, by Mr. C. Turner. It is a desirable variety; the petal is of fine form, tolerably smooth, with reddish purple lacing; it has a fine long pod, and may be bloomed without tying; the only apparent deficiency is its being too thin of petal; however, it is a welcome addition to its class.

Magnificent (Keynes) —A southern production, and, like many of the pinks emanating from that part of the kingdom, has an abundance of petal. It is, however, worthy of the designation given to it; the ground colour is pure, the lacing dark and distinct, and if the petals were rather more rounded off at the centre, it would be all that could be wished for.

Honourable Mrs. Herbert (Keynes).—Also raised by the above, and was let out, I believe, at the same time. It is a much smaller flower than the preceding, its ground colour is extremely pure, the lacing unusually dark, yet well defined, and is very constant. I should like this variety better if the petals were rather more circular; it is, however, worthy of admission into the most select collection.

Countess of Waldegrave (Looker).—This is an interesting variety, from an extensive raiser. It has, without exception, the finest-formed petal I have ever seen in a pink. Its lacing is a bright red, and evenly laid on. This flower is extremely thin of petal, and to get it into a condition to exhibit, it must be grown up to the mark, allowing only one pod to a stem, and not more than two or three stems to a plant. It will be found an invaluable variety for hybridizing, and no raiser of seedlings should be without it.

Lady Norreys (Looker).—This is of a similar character with the preceding variety, except that it ranks amongst the purple or dark laced class.

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Attila (Turner).—Has a good solid lace of a dark red or chocolate, and possesses several good properties. Its edges are smooth and the lacing distinct, but the petals appear devoid of that graceful curve at the side, so essential to good form; they are, in fact, if I may use a provincialism, rather "straight-sided." However, with this little detraction, it is a good variety to cultivate, and will prove a useful competing flower.

Princess Alice (Wilmer).—This appears a late variety, but is one that every grower should have on his bed, on account of its size. Having only grown it the present season, my observations are given with much diffidence. With me it has too much colour, and clearly does not require the usual stimulants to produce perfect lacing. The pod appears rather an awkward one to manage, and it will require extra attention to get the bloom well out; the petals are finely formed and smooth, the flower attains to a good size, the lacing broad and of a dark chocolate colour. It is every way worthy of general cultivation.

Sir Harry Smith (Marris).—This is a small flower, of exceedingly good properties. It is probable this variety has not appeared in its best state, through over-cultivation. Very rich soil should be avoided, as it causes it to come nearly a self; but in the absence of stimulants, it produces beautifully-marked blooms, laced with a peculiar kind of purple. The petals are finely formed and very smooth.

Forget-me-not (Looker).—This flower was let out by Mr. Turner. The petals are very smooth, and the outer row finely formed, but does not dress circular; the colour, which is of a lively tint, is distinctly laid on. It may prove a useful variety to seed from.

Duchess of Kent (Harris) has been out some time, but not generally cultivated. It is rather below the average size, and the petals too are narrower than I like. It must not, however, be lost sight of by those who grow for competition. It belongs to the red-laced class, its colour is extremely brilliant, and the lacing well defined.

Blackeyed Susan.—I received this beautiful variety as a black and white, or plain pink, but it proved to be, as stated at page 296, vol. 2, of the *Midland Florist*, a purple-laced variety, and one worthy of being grown in the most select collection. It requires growing up to the mark, and in its best state will stand a smart competition. In class showing, it may possibly be too small for the southern district. The lacing is beautifully laid on, very dense, and remarkably distinct. I prefer this flower to Jones's Huntsman, which has long been a favourite in the midland district. Susan has the preference in colour, and a smoother petal than Huntsman, and when more known, will have many admirers.

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Lord Norreys (Looker).—This flower is laced well with a broad distinct rosy purple, and its petals are tolerably smooth. However it is thinner than I like, and will not bear comparison with the previously-named varieties of this raiser.

Superior (Rosthorn.) I believe is from the northern district, and belongs to the black and white or plain class. It possesses more petal than the generality of the northern varieties. This should be in the hands of every cultivator where plain pinks are staged for competition.

In conclusion, I may add, that I have seen several seedlings of the present year, possessing large and finely-formed petals, smooth-edged, and of good substance; but as this is their first appearance, it would be premature to attempt to describe them, until they have stood the test of another season, when, if I am spared as long, I intend to report upon them.

DESTRUCTION OF THE APHIS OR GREENFLY.

I THINK it will prove acceptable to the readers of the *Midland Florist* to be made acquainted with a process by which they may effectually get rid of the aphis or greenfly from their rose trees. I have tried it with complete success, though I am glad to say I have been very little troubled with these pests. The account is in *Paul's Rose Garden*, and it is there said to be taken from *Mrs. Loudon's Flower Garden*; but instead of copying it, I will state my proceedings. Two years ago, I had some half-dozen rose bushes much covered with the greenfly, especially at the ends of the young shoots, where they always congregate. I purchased a pound of quassia chips for one shilling, and put about one-fourth of them in a jar, with two quarts of water, and placed it in the side-oven for two or three hours, the jar being covered, to prevent evaporation. Now this was a decoction, and after pouring it from the chips and mixing it with as much more water, when quite cold, the young shoots were gently bent down, and the ends dipped into it; and where this was not practicable, the liquid was

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laded over the infested parts. The day following happened to be showery, and afterwards I saw no more greenfly. Had the rain not have fallen, the bushes would have been well syringed. I believe this plan will be found effectual, and it is peculiarly adapted for ladies who attend to their favourites themselves, to whom the application of snuff or tobacco, if it were equally efficacious, would be very offensive.

T. ALLESTREE.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

HARDY PERENNIALS.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

In the *Florist's Guide*, there are the names of some new small-flowering sorts. These Lilliputian varieties will, no doubt, be much admired and used for bouquets in the autumnal months. From the descriptions, we should select the following as the most handsome:—

Omnium Minima.—Flowers round as a marble, and of a delicate rose colour.
Le Feu Follet.—Crimson flowers, yellow near the base.
Cupidon.—Light crimson, full of petals.
Mignardise.—Flowers light lilac, very double and good.

EPIMEDIUMS.

These are very interesting perennial herbaceous plants, delighting in shady and rather moist situations. We grow E. macranthon, E. muschianum, and E. violaceum, and we are glad to find, by the *Magazine of Botany*, that some new varieties have been

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originated on the Continent, that prolific source of novelties.

Epimedium Violacea Diphyllum.—Blossoms in early spring, the flowers being lilac, shaded with white and violet.

E. Sulphureum.—Yellow flowers.

E. Versicolor.—Flowers deep yellow, with the spurs and margins of the petals tinted with deep rose.

NEW HARDY SHRUBS, GREENHOUSE PLANTS, ETC.

AMONGST hardy shrubs, or small trees, few hold so prominent a position as the rhododendrons, beautiful alike in habit, foliage, and flowers. Amongst the newest lately brought into the trade, we may mention the following new and good varieties:—

R. Victoria Regina (Gains).—Beautiful white ground, spotted with rich crimson. Very attractive.

R. Mars.—A superb spotted scarlet.

R. Hendersonii.—This is most prolific in flowers; colour fine dark crimson.

R. Aureum Superbum.—The foliage of most of the yellow-flowering rhododendrons is against them, but this is one of the best deep yellows out.

R. Lindleyanum.—A very singular variety, the flowers being yellow, white, and pink, shaded.

R. Vervaneum Flore Pleno.—Purple, spotted with marone. Double flowers.

R. Ambrosii.—Fine formed blush, with very large trusses; the centre of the flower darker, with light crimson spots. An extra fine variety.

For a small greenhouse, the following new and pretty plants will be found an acquisition:—

Pimelia Verschaffellii.—A very free-blooming variety. The flowers are white, with distinct and conspicuous yellow stamens; the foliage has a silvery hue.

Mitraria Coccinea.—This is a small greenhouse shrub. The flowers are scarlet, and are produced in very great abundance.

Lapogeria Rosea.—A splendid climbing plant, with scarlet bell-shaped flowers. This and the Mitraria are sufficiently hardy for the Isle of Wight and Devonshire, but require further testing before they can be said to withstand a midland winter.

Pimelia Nebergiana.—White flowers; of dwarf and bushy growth; very handsome.

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FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

At the Worton Cottage Meeting (Mr. Beck's), July 10.

Puxley's May.—An extra fine scarlet flake, of first-rate properties.

May's Antonio.—Described as a most noble rose flake.

Matthews's Juno.—A delicately marked purple picotee, of the same colour as Lady Chesterfield. Very steady.

Dodwell's Mary.—A splendid light-edged red. It is saying a great deal, when it is described as similar to Youell's Gem, only double its size.

Dodwell's Alfred.—This we saw as a seedling last year, and described it as first-rate. It was shown at Worton as "a *superlatively fine and bold* purple-edged flower."

Colcutt's Sappho Pink was good. We have had blooms of both it and ***Smith's Huntsman*** sent us by Mr. Turner. They are both full sized. Sappho is a peculiar heavy purple lace, and Huntsman a purplish red. All pink growers must have them.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR AUGUST.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

By this time the old plants that have been flowering for the last four months will have lost their beauty, colours, and size. To make up for this, the young stock will be coming in as a succession. The blooms of the latter will be small at first, but gather them until the plants are capable of producing them good in size and colour. Sow all the seed that has been saved up to this time, either in pans or a raised bed, making use of fine light soil; we place pit-lights over it, but open at the sides, the object being to protect the plants in a young state from heavy rain. When watering, be careful to do so through a fine rose. When the plants have several rough leaves, plant them in beds for blooming.

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If mildew appear on any part of the stock, syringe the plants so infected, and shake black sulphur over them when in a wet state: care should be taken that the sulphur is shaken on the under part of the foliage. This pest generally attacks the old plants; and when this is the case, it is the best to take them up and part them. The young shoots with roots should be dipped in water, after which cover them with sulphur, which can be done much more effectually when in the hand than when growing. Plant them out as stock plants, not to be watered over the foliage for a week at least; after that time rain or watering will show that the mildew has been got rid of, and the plants will soon grow out of it.

MEETING AT WORTON COTTAGE,

MAY 15.

Two seedling polyanthuses from Mr. Costar, of Benson, President and Regalia, are promising flowers, the latter is the better of the two, well-formed in most respects, flat on the surface, eye good and circular, lacing even and true, and good in colour. The tube is rather large and slightly angular. Both varieties appeared to have suffered a little in packing, and the trusses to have been taken off feeble plants. A number of single pips of this flower came from "J. A. C., of Newcastle," packed with some seedling pansies, in a paper box, which was so completely crushed, that it was impossible to form anything like a correct judgment of them. Enough, however, remained of the former to show that they were packed, in all probability, as fine, if not finer, than any varieties submitted to us this season. A two-penny zinc or tin box would have ensured their reaching us in the best condition. The same must be said of a box of auricula blooms, from "L. of Falkirk," and a single pip of Sir John Moore, sent

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in a letter from the same party; they were past all judgment. A fine northern-raised grey-edged variety, grown by Mr. Edwards, was selected, and the plant was handed over to Mr. Andrews for figuring. Dr. Horner, of Hull, sent two seedling auriculas; one, a grey-edged variety, is a very promising flower; it was past its prime, and had evidently suffered from the weather. The tube is rather too large, but of a fine deep waxy yellow, and well filled with anthers; the paste very fine and smooth, and a perfect circle; the ground colour a violet purple, leaving a proper margin of grey; the outer circumference of the flower round, and the pips (three) quite flat. This flower possesses decided novelty, being a grey with violet ground, and with white foliage. The second, a green-edged flower, did not please us, and we imagine is inferior to "L.'s" Sir John Moore, before-mentioned, when the latter is seen in proper condition.

CINERARIAS.—"H. B., Hastings," sent two trusses of a seedling, put into a good round tin box, but without anything to retain them in a quiet position; they were consequently spoiled. "M., of Taunton," sent, for the second time, a truss of a seedling, finer in colour than Salter's Clementine, not so good in shape, and with the decidedly bad habit of reflexing very greatly.

CALCEOLARIA.—A calceolaria came from "M. W., Whitby," not sufficiently circular, and too large in the throat; ground-colour buff, prettily striped and spotted with dark rich brown. We hope that this is a mere precurser of some fine things from a spirited raiser.

PANSIES.—Mr. Edwards produced a bold-eyed white-ground seedling pansy; the rays of the eye radiating into the margin disqualify what would otherwise prove a very useful flower from taking any place in a competing stand of first-rate varieties.

SEEDLING PELARGONIUMS.—Three trusses came from "S., Windsor." No. 1 is a most charming rich crimson marone top-petaled flower, small but of excel-

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lent quality. The censors would request a sight of this again, with real address. Nos. 2 and 3 possessed many points of merit, but are altogether inferior flowers to their companion. We must say the same of a seedling from "H., Putney." As the places are not very distant from each other, "H." may like to compare it with some varieties of the same colour at Worton Cottage, and so judge for himself, which is very desirable.

PETUNIAS, from "M., Taunton," possess little merit; the white is large but coarse, the lilac is very delicate in colour, but not superior to many we have seen. This is the verdict that must unavoidably be passed on scores of seedlings, for distinct character and colours are very hard to obtain.

A seedling erica, Ne plus ultra, from Mr. Epps, Maidstone, was given to Mr. Andrews, to take a coloured memorandum of, in case it should prove novel, which has to be decided by comparison with the tricolor varieties already in cultivation.

N.B. The censors would earnestly impress upon raisers to give more attention to the careful and secure packing of their flowers. It has been a source of great regret at this meeting to see how much postage has been paid absolutely for nothing, because their repeated directions on this subject have been neglected.

REVIEWS.

PROGNOSTICATIONS OF THE WEATHER; OR, SIGNS OF ATMOSPHERIC CHANGES. By E. J. Lowe, Esq., F.R.A.S. *Longman and Co., London; E. Renals, Nottingham.*

WE have here a concise and interesting treatise on a most important subject. To gardeners and amateurs, its perusal will be of much service, as anything which

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tends to elucidate the phenomena of atmospheric changes, will, we doubt not, be especially useful.

The observations are classed, or arranged thus:—

1st. Those deducible from observations of philosophical instruments.

2nd. Those indicated by the earth, atmosphere, clouds, heavenly bodies, &c.

3rd. Those indicated by the habits of individuals of the animal and vegetable kingdom.

We have not space to make extracts, but may here observe, that Mr. Lowe very clearly shows that under the latter head, many of the popularly believed prognostics are fallacies. He gives some twenty of these indications, and from his own observations proves that they are as often wrong as right. We most cordially recommend the little work to the perusal of our friends.

BECK'S FLORIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY, No. 31.

Cheetham's Lancashire Hero Auricula embellishes the number, drawn from a fine specimen, exhibited by Mr. Edwards, at Worton Cottage.

There are some very interesting papers, by Dr. Horner, On inducing the Amaryllis to Flower. A List of the best Picotees and Carnations, compiled by Mr. Edwards, from returns made by growers, from various parts of the kingdom, and which, we should imagine, would be a good guide to purchasers. The Calceolaria, by Mr. Woodhouse. An amusing article, abridged from an American paper, entitled "A few Words to Beginners." Fragments, by Mr. Rivers. Notes of the two Great Northern Tulip Exhibitions. Notices of New Plants, and British Ferns, &c.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY. Part 6.

THE illustrations are *Gesneria macrantha purpurea*, a very beautiful greenhouse herbaceous plant, with

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scarlet flowers; *Primula auricula nigra pleno* (Double Black Auricula), said to be propagated by division of the plants, *and by cuttings*, which last mode we presume to be a mistake; the *Cheiranthus ochroleucus Marshalii*, a beautiful hybrid plant, which we have bloomed, and previously noticed in our pages; *Cypripedium Lowii* (Low's Lady's Slipper), a beautiful plant, obtained by Mr. Low, jun., in Borneo, where it was discovered growing on high trees, in thick jungle; and *Dr. Horner*, a feathered bizarre tulip, raised by Mr. Groom, of Clapham.

The woodcuts are numerous, illustrative of fountains, &c., with portraits of remarkable plants exhibited in the neighbourhood of London.

The articles of most interest,—On the Culture of Chrorozemas,—on Blooming the Cloth of Gold Rose,—Elementary Structure of Plants,—Tying down Fruit-trees,—Preparation of Pansies for Exhibition,—Early Forcing Pelargoniums, &c. &c.

Part III.

QUERIES.

I am much troubled with the greenfly on my dahlias. Will you be kind enough to inform me of the best way to get rid of them, and you will greatly oblige A Subscriber.

You will oblige, if you will tell me in the next number of the *Midland Florist*, what is the difference between an alpine and a self auricula. I am told that Oddy's Rest is an alpine while the bloom is in a young state, and the eye of a yellowish cast; but when the eye is bleached, and become more white, it is then a self auricula. Is this the truth? Surely there is a better rule. If not, Oddy's Rest and many others, sold as selfs, cannot be relied on as show flowers; they changing their characters from alpines to selfs, I might place them in the alpine class, and the judge say they were selfs, and by this be disqualified. As this is my first year of growing auriculas, I wish

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to know the definite rule; therefore I trust you will give me your decided opinion as to what constitutes a self and what an alpine. E. W.

[Oddy's Rest is usually shown in the self class of auriculas; so is Berry's Lord Lee, a crimson flower, with very inferior paste, or ground colour. Our opinion of a self is this—paste white, colour decided, without shade. As examples of good selfs we may quote Hufton's Squire Mundy, Dickson's Apollo, Redman's Metropolitan, &c. Alpines have generally thinner foliage, with flowers of less substance, the marginal colour being shaded from dark purple and bronze through all the lighter shades. The paste or centre of an alpine, is either deep yellow, lemon, or cream colour. We do not advise alpines and auriculas to be bloomed together.]

Will you oblige a constant reader of the *Midland Florist*, by giving a list of British ferns? W. C. N.

[The following are some of the most beautiful, and we refer W. C. N. to *Francis's British Ferns* for further information. Moon's little work we have not seen.

Grammites ceterach. Scaly Heart's Tongue.
Polypodium vulgare. Common Polypody.
,, *phegopteris.* Beech Fern.
,, *dryopteris.* Tender Three-branched Polypody.
,, *calcareum.* Lime Polypody.
Woodsia ilvensis. Hairy Woodsia.
,, *hyperborea.* Round-leaved Woodsia.
Cistopteris dentata. Toothed Bladder Fern.
,, *fragilis.* Brittle Bladder Fern.
,, *alpina.* Laciniated Bladder Fern.
Aspidium lonchitis. Rough Alpine Shield Fern.
,, *lobatum.* Prickly Shield fern.
,, *aculeatum.* Common Prickly Shield Fern.
,, *thelypteris.* Marsh Shield Fern.
,, *filix mas.* Male Fern.
Asplenium septentrionale. Forked Spleenwort.
,, *alternifolium.* Alternate-leaved Spleenwort.
,, *ruta muraria.* Wall Rue.
,, *viride.* Green-ribbed Spleenwort.
,, *adiantum nigrum.* Black Maidenhair.
Scolopendrium vulgare. Common Hart's Tongue.
Blechnum boreale. Rough Spleenwort.
Cryptogiamma crispa. Rock Brake, or Stone Fern.
Adiantum capillus veneris. True Maidenhair.
Hymenophyllum Tunbridgense. Tunbridge Filmy Fern.
,, *Wilsonii.* Northern Filmy Fern.
Osmunda regalis. Royal Fern.
Botrychium lunaria. Common Moonwort.
Ophiaglossum vulgatum. Common Adder's Tongue.]

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LIQUID MANURE FOR FUCHSIAS, GERANIUMS, ETC.—We have found sheep manure (two pecks to twenty gallons of water) excellent. It is by no means a good plan to give it too strong.

CAMELLIAS.—*West of Scotland.*—Take out of the pots, shake the soil away, and repot in rotten turf and leaf mould, with a small quantity of sharp river sand; then cut them in, and start them again in moist heat. When camellias are in a bad state of health, they are some time recovering themselves.

ASPARAGUS.—Salt water, fresh from the sea, would, we think, be of service to asparagus. We would apply it in dull or showery weather, once a week or ten days. We also fancy, though we have had no experience in the matter, that a top-dressing of rotten seaweed might be very beneficially applied in the autumn.

RUSSIAN AND NEAPOLITAN VIOLETS.—In May, put some fine vegetable soil round the plants, which will make runners, and root readily. As soon as sufficiently rooted, take them off, and plant in beds of similar compost. Keep well moistened. The Russian violet is dark purple, whilst the Neapolitan is pink. They are very distinct.

GERANIUMS IN POTS.—Where regular attention can be given, moss is not required to cover the surface soil. Where done, it should be clean, and will certainly save much trouble in watering, as it prevents evaporation.

OLEANDER.—Your slip may be repotted in leaf mould and sandy loam, equal parts. Drain the pot well. These plants are fond of moisture. It should do well, for they are of very easy cultivation.

ONIONS.—R. B. H.—Apply nitrate of soda. See vol 2, p. 237.

HEATING A SMALL GREENHOUSE OR PIT.—We think the best way would be to have a small boiler, and heat with hot water. This would winter and grow admirably such things as verbenas, fuchsias, pot roses, &c. At one end of the greenhouse, a shallow tank might be constructed, through which the hot water pipe might pass; it need not be more than four inches deep; cover it with slates and sand. Pots of cuttings, or cuttings planted in the sand, and properly attended to, would strike root freely, and by this means a good sized garden might be kept gay with plants struck in spring from those preserved in the pit or greenhouse during winter.

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR AUGUST.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

It will be advisable now to make a sowing of *lettuce* in favourable situations; and where the ground is in fine order, excellent *lettuce* may be obtained before severe weather comes on. Bath Coss, or the Improved Black-seeded Bath, will be found best for this purpose.

Cauliflower plants should be planted out, and a good supply of *endive* also. In the early part of the month, where kidney potatoes, or early peas have been grown, the ground, after receiving a good dressing of manure, should again be cropped with *winter greens* of all descriptions: the point is never to let the ground lie idle.

By the first of the month, or a few days after, sow *cabbage seed*. Perhaps one of the best is Waite's King of the Cabbage. This has been grown in good style here during the early part of the summer. It is dwarf, early, and of excellent flavour. For succession, there is the Enfield Market cabbage, or the Improved Nonpareil, or Shilling's Queen, all good sorts.

Where *spinach* is liked, make a sowing of it. *Tripoli onion*, *Deptford*, or *Welsh*, may also be got in. Take up *eschallots* when ready, and dry them well before storing. Also, pull *onions*, laying them in a sunny situation previous to putting away. The bed or beds may then be manured and cropped with *cress*, or *turnip radish*, both of which will be found useful in the autumn.

Potatoes.—As we write, we learn that the disease is again making its appearance. We should, if it were our case, pull the tops immediately: we once did so, and with beneficial effect; it allows the action of the sun and air to have their effect on the surface of the soil, and prevents the spread of the contagion.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Plant out runners of *strawberries* forthwith. We like Kitley's Goliath; it is a decidedly fine fruit. Amongst varieties we would also recommend there are Myatt's Globe—excellent in flavour; Eleanor is handsome, but rather acid; Mammoth, an immense variety, of high colour, and splendid appearance, but destitute of flavour: British Queen is fine and good. Then there are the old favourites, Keen's Seedling, and Elton Pine, both of which ought to be grown.

Endeavour to destroy the American blight on young fruit-trees. Soot and train oil is a nasty application; perhaps the decoction from quassia chips, as recommended in this number

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by Mr. Allestree, for the destruction of the aphis on roses, if applied with a painter's brush, well rubbing it into the crevices, might be effectual.

Train and regulate the summer shoots of *wall trees;* it will save a vast amount of labour in cold weather.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Some amateurs are fond of budding *roses;* now will be a good time for the operation. Choose the cool of the evening, or early morning, to do it in.

Now may be put in abundance of cuttings of what are termed *bedding plants. Verbenas*, as a matter of course; all the new *pentstemons*, such as Princess Helena, Mac Ewenii, Verplanttii, Azurea, and Heterophylla,—these are invaluable things. Then there are the various *salvias, dianthuses*, &c., with that beautiful new plant, *Cheiranthus Marshalianus.* All these things, with *calceolarias* (the shrubby ones), may be struck in the open ground, under hand-glasses, and with shading, &c., will succeed admirably. Nor must *geraniums* be forgotten. There are the various scarlets, as well as other sorts, will strike readily without glasses, in the open border also. *China roses* may be propagated in the same way.

Pinks should be planted out where they are to stand for blooming next year. They will be found to lace better than when put out in the spring. The surplus stock of pipings may be planted on a reserved bed.

Carnations and *picotees* should be layered forthwith. Attend to cross-impregnation to obtain new varieties; this is far better than trusting to chance. Many of the best varieties now out have been raised from seed which had been carefully crossed.

Examine *ranunculus* and *anemone roots*, and take care that they contract no mildew. They should be kept in a dry airy place.

Auriculas may be repotted; examine the tap root, and remove any diseased or cankered parts.

Water *dahlias* well occasionally with liquid manure; tie out the branches as they require it, and attend to disbudding and thinning.

Plant out *biennial* and *perennial plants*, such as seedling *scabiouses, dianthuses, delphineums*, &c.

GREENHOUSE.

Propagate by cuttings; also sow such things as *nemophilla, Coreopsis Clarkia*, and *mignonette*, to flower in the winter. Neither must *ten-week stocks* be forgotten. Give abundance of water to *balsams*, in pots, and attend well to all *climbing plants, nasturtiums*, &c. In fact, these, with *rhodochitons, maurandyas*, and *lothospermums* should be propagated now. Prepare the compost for repotting the general stock, previous to bringing them from their summer quarters, into the house.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

AURICULA AND POLYANTHUS SHOW,

At Mr. Wm. Tate's, Copley Arms Inn, Skircoat Green, near Halifax, April 30.

Premier Prize.—Fletcher's Mary Ann, R. Summerscales.

Green edged.

1 Colonel Taylor, M. Mansley.
2 Ashton's Prince of Wales, ditto.
3 Standard, T. Meller.
4 Imperator, M. Mansley.
5 Green Hero, T. Meller.
6 Shakspere, ditto.
7 Commerce, ditto
8 Commander, R. Summers.

Grey-edged.

1 Mary Ann, M. Mansley.
2 Ne plus ultra, ditto.
3 Conqueror, ditto.
4 Complete, ditto.
5 Privateer, ditto.
6 Lovely Ann, ditto.
7 Ringleader, R. Summers.
8 Lancashire Hero, M. Mansley.

White-edged.

1 Hepworth's Briton, T. Meller.
2 Countess of Wilton, R. Summers.
3 Catharina, M. Mansley.
4 Regular, T. Meller.
5 Taylor's Glory, R. Summers.
6 Taylor's Favourite, ditto.
7 Maid of the Mill, ditto.
8 Lily of the Valley, R. Summers.

Selfs.

1 Bradshaw's Tidy, T. Meller.
2 Othello, R. Summers.
3 Metropolitan, M. Mansley.
4 Blue Bonnet, R. Summers.
5 Primate, ditto.
6 True Blue, ditto.
7 Lord Lee, ditto.
8 Ned Lud, M. Mansley.

Alpines.

1 Rosamond, T. Meller.
2 Queen Victoria, R. Summers.
3 Fair Ellen, M. Mansley.
4 Favourite, R. Summers.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Beauty of England, M. Mansley,
2 Lord Lincoln, R. Summers.
3 Lord John Russell, ditto.
4 Sovereign, M. Mansley.
5 Poor Dick, R. Summers.
6 Alexander, M. Mansley.
7 Crownshaw, R. Summers.
8 Exile, ditto.

AURICULA AND POLYANTHUS SHOW,

At Mr. D. Asquith's, the Bread Tree, Ovenden, near Halifax, May 1.

Premium.—1. Fletcher's Mary Ann, R. Summers. 2. Prince of Wales, M. Mansley.

Green-edged.

1 Imperator, J. Womersley.
2 Standard, ditto.
3 Shakspere, M. Mansley.
4 Colonel Taylor, ditto.
5 Morris Green Hero, D. Womersley
6 Commander, J. Womersley.
7 Highland Boy, R. Summers.
8 Lady Ann Wilbraham, M. Mansley.

Grey-edged.

1 Complete, M. Mansley.
2 Ne plus ultra, R. Summers.
3 Mary Ann, M. Mansley.
4 Conqueror, ditto.
5 Fair Flora, R. Summers.
6 Privateer, M. Mansley.
7 Ringleader, R. Summers.
8 Lancashire Hero, M. Mansley.

White-edged.

1 Briton, J. Womersley.
2 Catherina, ditto
3 Countess of Wilton, R. Summers.
4 Venus, J. Womersley.
5 Favourite, R. Summers.
6 Maid of the Mill, ditto.
7 Taylor's Glory, ditto.
8 Lovely Ann, J. Womersley.

Selfs.

1 Othello, R. Summers.
2 True Blue, ditto.
3 Lord Lee, ditto.
4 Squire Mundy, D. Womersley.
5 Ned Lud, ditto.
6 Tidy, J. Womersley.
7 Metropolitan, M. Mansley.
8 Blue Bonnet, R. Summers.

Alpines.

1 Rosamond, M. Mansley.
2 Conspicua, D. Womersley.
3 Fair Ellen, J. Womersley.
4 Favourite, R. Summers.

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Beauty of England, M. Mansley.
2 Alexander, ditto.
3 Lord Lincoln, R. Summers.
4 Lord John Russell, ditto.
5 Poor Dick, ditto.
6 Sovereign, M. Mansley.
7 Exile, J. Womersley.
8 Crownshaw, R. Summers.

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TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. R. Pollit's, Jolly Carter, Winton, Lancashire, Friday, May 24.

Pans.—1. Trafalgar and La Vandikken, H. Dain. 2. Bienfait and unknown, J. Ackerley. 3. Comte de Vergennes and Surpass Lacantique, C. Wych. 4. Royal Sovereign and Queen Adelaide, P. Daine.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Trafalgar, H. Daine.
2 Crown Prince, W. Leather.
3 George IV., J. Ackerley.
4 Firebrand, J. Preston.
5 Duke of Wellington, J. Hardman.
6 Goud Beurs, ditto.
7 Truth, J. Preston.
8 Duc de Savoy, W. Leather.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Crown Prince, W. Leather.
2 San Joe, P. Daine.
3 Trafalgar, H. Daine.
4 Surpass Lacantique, W. Leather.
5 Lustre, J. Hardman.
6 Black Prince, J. L. Richardson.
7 Charbonnier, J. Preston.
8 Lacantique, J. L. Richardson.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Slater,
2 Baguet, W. Leather.
3 Incomparable, ditto.
4 Duc de Bordeaux, M. Fogg.
5 Unknown, ditto.
6 Washington, J. Ackerley.
7 Captain Flash, C. Wych.
8 Ambassador, J. L. Richardson.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, M. Fogg.
2 Baguet, W. Leather.
3 Toot, M. Fogg.
4 Sable Rex, J. L. Richardson.
5 Adelaide, ditto.
6 Violet Wallers, W. Leather.
7 Unknown, J. Preston.
8 Rubens, M. Fogg.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, P. Daine.
2 Heroine, M. Fogg.
3 Comte de Vergennes, J. Slater.
4 Duchess of Newcastle, C. Wych.
5 Dolittle, W. Leather.
6 Andromeda, M. Fogg.
7 Aglaia, J. Slater.
8 Violet Winner, W. Leather.

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, W. Leather.
2 Triomphe Royale, M. Fogg.
3 Lord Hill, P. Daine.
4 Rose Vesta, C Wych.
5 Rose Regina, J. Preston.
6 Roi de Cerise, W. Leather.
7 Aglaia, J. Slater.
8 Lady Crewe, R. Pollit.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, C. Wych.
2 Ditto, J. Ackerley.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Sir Henry Pottinger, C. Wych.
2 Unknown, J. Ackerley.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady of Arragon, J. Slater.
2 Portia, ditto,

White Selfs.

1 White Flag, H. Daine.
2 Ditto, J. Ackerley.

Yellow Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. L. Richardson.
2 Ditto, C. Wych.

The judges were Messrs. J. Clegg, Middleton; F. Jackson, Oldham; and J. Caldwell, Morton.

PETER EATON'S TULIP MEETING,

Bedford near Leigh, Lancashire, May the 25th.

Factory Kettle.—Unique, Duc de Savoy, W. Beardsworth.

Maiden Kettle.—Veriely, Charles X., Duc de Savoy, Goud Beurs, Pass Lacantique, Baguet, Regina, J. Thompson.

Premier Prizes.—1. Charles X., Lustre, Bienfait, Sable, Count, Unique, A. Blackburn. 2. Crown Prince, Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Unique, R. Ratcliffe. 3. Trafalgar, Lustre, Baguet, Bienfait, Crewe, Unique, R. Prescot. 4. Crown Prince, Lacantique, Bienfait, Bienfait, Triumph, Unique, W. Leather. 5. Charles X., Albion, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Unique, J. Eaton. 6. Charles X. Lustre, Baguet, Bienfait, Walworth, Unique, J. Postlethwaite. 7. Trafalgar, Poly, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Unique, T Belchaw. 8. Catafalque, Dutch Cat, Mungo, Magnus, Count, Unique, R. Mort. 9 Waterloo, Lustre, Belissima, Bienfait, Bronte, Unique, P. Hilton. 10. Charles X., Lustre, Prince, Narene, Dolittle, Unique, P Rosbotham. 11. Crown Prince, Lacantique, Winner, Suwarrow, Count, Unique, A. Belchaw. 12. Charles X., Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Regina, P. Parkinson.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Lord Lilford, A. Blackburn.
2 Charles X., R. Ratcliffe.
3 Duc de Savoy, J. Monks.
4 Crown Prince, R. Ratcliffe.
5 Trafalgar, R. Prescot.
6 Catafalque, W. Leather.
7 Wellington, R. Mart.

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8 Beurs, S. Moss.
9 Magnum Bonum, R. Ratcliffe.
10 Polyphemus, J. Postlethwaite.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, R. Ratcliffe.
2 Careless, A. Blackburn.
3 Pass Lacantique, R. Preston.
4 Sans Joe, J. Postlethwaite.
5 Albion, R. Ratcliffe.
6 Dutch Cat, R. Prescot.
7 Polyphemus, W. Leather.
8 George IV., R. Mart.
9 Lord Stanley, A. Blackburn.
10 Crown Prince, J. Bromilow.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Washington, A. Blackburn.
2 Mungo, R. Ratcliffe.
3 Baguet, R. Prescot.
4 Winner, ditto.
5 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe.
6 Beurs, W. Leather.
7 Turk, R. Prescot.
8 Incomparable, A. Blackburn.
9 Fonce Ponce, R. Mort.
10 Duchess of Derinburg, R. Prescot.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Wallers, A. Blackburn.
2 Bienfait, R. Ratcliffe.
3 Siam, W. Leather.
4 Narene, A. Blackburn.
5 Charlotte, J. Postlethwaite.
6 Sable, J. Eaton.
7 Toot, J. Postlethwaite.
8 Magnus, J. Eaton.
9 Prince Royal, A. Blackburn.
10 Fuddler, R. Prescot.

Feathered Roses.

1 Triumph, A. Blackburn.
2 Count, A. Blackburn.
3 Crewe, R. Prescot.
4 Andromeda, W. Leather.
5 Dolittle, R. Prescot.
6 Walworth, W. Leather.
7 Vesta, J. Eaton.
8 Bagley's Seedling, R. Prescot.
9 Bronte, W. Leather.
10 Rose Selina, J. Eaton.

Flamed Roses.

1 La Vandikken, J. Postlethwaite.
2 Unique, R. Ratcliffe.
3 Ponce, A. Blackburn.
4 Camillus, J. Postlethwaite.
5 Aglaia, R. Ratcliffe.
6 Vesta, ditto.
7 Ridey, J. Bromilow.
8 Lord Hill, A. Blackburn.
9 Seedling, A. Blackburn.
10 Lady Lilford, R. Prescot.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Beditious, R. Mart.
2 Captain Sley, J. Bromilow.
3 Seedling, A. Blackburn.
4 Seedling, R. Mort.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Godet Parfait, J. Postlethwaite.
2 Lancashire Hero, J. Bromilow.
3 Katrina, J. Postlethwaite.
4 Maid of Orleans, R. Ratcliffe.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Lilford, J. Postlethwaite.
3 Boadicea, R. Mart.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, R. Ratcliffe.
2 White Flag, ditto.

WILLIAM POSTLETHWAITE'S TULIP MEETING,

At Leigh, May 27.

Maiden Kettle.—Duc de Savoy, Surpass Lacantique, J. Thompson.

Premier Prizes.—1. Trafalgar, Polyphemus, Bienfait, Bienfait, Count, Unique, T. Belchaw. 2. George IV., Liberty, Mungo, Bienfait, Triomphe Royale, Unique, J. Leather. 3. Surpass Pal, Lacantique, Bienfait, Bienfait, Triumph, Unique, J. Belchaw. 4. Surpass Cat, Lustre, Baguet, Bienfait, Walworth, Unique, J. Postlethwaite. 5. Trafalgar, Surpass Lacantique, Bienfait, Bienfait, Triumph, Vesta, J. Mort. 6. George IV., Albion, Bienfait, Sable Rex, Dolittle, Unique, J. Eaton. 7. Trafalgar, Surpass Lacantique, Bienfait, Magnus, Rose Selina, Pauney, W. Lythgoe. 8. Crown Prince, Lustre, Mango, Toot, Duc de Bronte, Unique, J. Buckley. 9. Crown Prince, Lustre, La Belle Narene, La Belle Narene, Triumph, Rose Aron, J. Boardman. 10. George IV., Surpass Lacantique, Violet Winner, Toot, Count, Unique, A. Belchaw. 11. Crown Prince, Cartes, Mungo, Sable Rex, Count, Unique, N. Tabert.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 George IV., J. Postlethwaite.
2 Trafalgar, J. Monks.
3 Crown Prince, J. Postlethwaite.
4 Duc de Savoy, J. Monks.
5 Beurs, J. Thompson.
6 Pass Catafalque, J. Leather.
7 Magnum Bonum, P. Hilton.
8 Achilles, J. Postlethwaite.
9 Wellington, J. Heaton.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, P. Hilton.
2 Surpass Lacantique, J. Postlethwaite
3 George IV., J. Leather.
4 Grand Sultan, J. Boardman.
5 Sans Joe, J. Postlethwaite.
6 Duke of Leeds, J. Buckley.
7 Albion, T. Bydel.
8 Josephus, J. Leather.
9 Dutch Catafalque, J. Thompson.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Washington, J. Mort.
2 Mungo, J. Munks.
3 Baguet, J. Leather.

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4 Bienfait, A. Belchaw.
5 Antony, J. Leather.
6 Winner, J. Mort.
7 Prince, W. Lythgoe.
8 Incomparable, N. Tabert.
9 La Belle Narene, T. Belchaw.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Leather.
2 Wurtenburg, J. Mort.
3 Siam, J. Postlethwaite.
4 Magnus, J. Eaton.
5 Sable Rex, N. Tabert.
6 Toot, J. Boardman.
7 La Belle Narene, J. Mort.
8 A Font Noir, T. Bydel.
9 Wallers, J. Monks.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J. Boardman.
2 Lady Egerton, ditto.
3 Count, J. Buckley.
4 Bronte, P. Hilton.
5 Rose Selina, W. Lythgoe.
6 Vesta, J. Heaton.
7 Walworth, J. Monks.
8 Heroine, J. Thompson.
9 Hero of the Nile, J. Postlethwaite.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, W. Brocklehurst.
2 Camillus, J. Postlethwaite.
3 Vesta, J. Mort.
4 Lady Crewe, T. Bydel,
5 La Vandikken, John Postlethwaite.
6 Triumph, J. Leather.
7 Ponce, J. Postlethwaite.
8 Rose Regina, J. Thompson.
9 Roi de Cerise, P. Hilton.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Charbonnier, J. Belchaw.
2 Dentonia, ditto.
3 Truth, ditto.
4 Blucher, ditto.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling, J Mort.
2 Princess Royal, J. Belchaw.
3 Seedling, T. Bydel.
4 Criterion, T. Belchaw.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Lilford, J. Postlethwaite.
2 Unknown, J. Thompson.
3 Carolina, W. Lythgoe.
4 Crompton's Seedling, J. Thompson,

TULIPS AND PANSIES.

Whitby, May 28.

TULIPS.

Pan of Three Blooms.—1. Globerdine, Violet Lebeque, and Platoff, T. Percival, Esq.

Extra Prize, by Mr. W. Willison, for the best Six.—Royal Sovereign. Polyphemus, Aglaia, Triomphe Royal, Roscius, and Davis's Trafalgar, S. Flintoft.

The Hilda Prize, for the best Three.—1. La Belle Catherine, Platoff, and Triomphe Royale, S. Flintoft.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Royal Sovereign, S. Flintoft.
2 Groom's Prince Albert, J. Sanderson
3 Strong's Benjamin, J. Readman.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, J. Readman.
2 Ditto, S. Flintoft.
3 Platoff, T. Percival, Esq.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Violet Lebeque, J. Swallowell.
2 Ditto, M. L. Simpson.
3 Black Baguet, T. Percival, Esq.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 La Belle Catherine, S. Flintoft.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, M. L. Simpson.

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, J. Swallowell.
2 Black Baguet, S. Flintoft.
3 Ditto, M. L Simpson.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, S Flintoft.
2 Ditto, J. Swallowell.
3 Ditto, T. Percival, Esq.

PANSIES.

Premier.—Duke of Norfolk, Mr. J. Swallowell.

Pan of Eighteen Varieties.—1. J. Swallowell, for Duke of Norfolk, Cossack, Orestes, Berryer, Marchioness of Lothian, Miss Edwards, Lucy Neal, Optimus, Addison, Constellation, Climax, White Sergeant, Ondine, Brutus, Mrs. Beck, Dr. Wolf, Caroline, and Zabdi.

Pan of Twelve Varieties.—1. J. Swallowell, for Duke of Norfolk, Dr. Wolf, Caroline, Zabdi, Ondine, Marchioness of Lothian, Berryer, Constellation, White Sergeant, Climax, Cossack, and Milton.

Pan of Six Varieties.—1. J. Swallowell, for Duchess of Rutland, Brutus, Mrs. Beck, Marchioness of Lothian, Rainbow, and Princess.

By Mr. C. Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough, for the best Six.—Bell's Duke of Norfolk, Scholefield's President, Bell's Aurora, Turner's Miss Edwards, Mrs. Beck, and Duchess of Rutland.

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THE NORTHAMPTON FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Held their first spring meeting, on May 28, at the New Hall, Newland.

1st Prize for Tulips (twenty-four dissimilar blooms, eight in each class), to Mr. Martin, for Polyphemus, Triomphe Royale, Hampden, Bienfait, Incomparable, Platoff, Duc de Bordeaux, Hebe, Leonardi Vinci, Grand Cerise, Premier, Grand Admiral, Accapulco, La Beaute, Virginale, Walker's Defiance, Gloria Albion, Duchess of Newcastle, Optimus, Lawrence's Athalia, Imperatrice de Maroc, Scipio Africanus, Surpass Catafalque, and two unknown. 2nd to Mr. Archer, for Giganteum, Cleopatra, Tomlin's 100, Count Platoff, Josephine, Violet Winner, Lady Crewe, Magnum Bonum, Light Baguet, Atlada, Surpass Catafalque, Triomphe Royale, Triomphe de Flora, Archduke Charles, Incomparable, Chellaston Feathered Rose, Gloria Mundi, Duke of Kent, Vesta, Queen of Spain, Comte de Vergennes, and Lord Hill.

1st Twelve, to Mr. Martin, for Triomphe Royale, Ambassador de Holland, Lord Hill, Noveau Incomparable, Andrews's King, Waterloo, Union des Beautes, Catafalque, Auld's Mrs. Auld, Eveque de Londres, Holmes's King, and one unknown. 2nd. Mr. Holliday, for Glenco, Alcoa, Madame Vestris, Rose Mantua, Lady Middleton, Light Baguet, Lord Cornwallis, La Reine Miranda, Comte de Vergennes, Aristides, and Lawrence's Friend. 3rd. Rev. W. Taylor, for Violet Alexander, Nero, Lord Hill, Matilda, Light Baguet, Bienfait, Violet Forum, Royal Elizabeth, Bell's King, Castell's Sidney, Taylor's Beauty.

1st Six, to Mr. Martin, for Duchess of Wellington, Aglaia, Aberidianna, Triomphe Royale, Sir George Duckett, and Dutch Catafalque. 2nd. Mr. Archer, for Senior's Seedling, Tomlin's 100, Paragon, Trafalgar, Lord Hill, and Franciscus Primus. 3rd. Rev. W. Taylor, for Cleopatra, Abel's Nuptial, Tomlin's 100, Lady Crewe, Affada, and Sansparell.

1st Bizarre.—Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Holliday. 2nd, Grand Cairo, Mr. Martin. 3rd. Charbonnier Noir, Mr. Martin. 4th. Surpass Polyphemus, Mr. Archer.

1st Byblœmen.—Bienfait Incomparable, Mr. Martin. 2nd. Clegg's Washington, Mr. Archer.

1st Rose.—Triomphe Royale, Mr. Watts. 2nd. Lord Hill, Mr. Martin. 3rd. La Reine Miranda, Mr. Holliday.

BLACKBURN TULIP SHOW.

At the Assembly Rooms, Heaton-street, May 30.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., T. Chippendale.
2 Catafalque Superieure, J. Holker.
3 Fabius, R. Barlow.
4 Duke of Devonshire, R. Howarth.
5 Wellington, T. Chippendale.
6 Greenman, J. Foulds.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, T. Chippendale.
2 Paganini, James Bramley.
3 Pilot, T. Chippendale.
4 Cyclops, R. Howarth.
5 Duke of Devonshire J. Holker.
6 Charbonnier, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Buckley's Beauty, John Bramley.
2 Bienfait, J. Holker.
3 Louis XVI., ditto.
4 La Belle Narene, T. Chippendale.
5 Lancashire Hero, J. Holker.
6 Raven, ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 La Belle Narene, T. Chippendale.
2 Violet Cook, ditto.
3 Violet Pourpre, ditto.
4 Bienfait, ditto.
5 Gibbons's 88, James Bramley.
6 General Barneveld, J. Holker.

Feathered Roses.

1 La Belle Nanette, T. Chippendale.
2 Comte de Vergennes, ditto.
3 Lady Crewe, John Bramley.
4 Lewold, J. Holker.
5 Hero of the Nile, T. Chippendale.
6 Lady Middleton, R. Howarth.

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, T. Chippendale.
2 Aglaia, John Bramley.
3 Gibbons's 40, T. Chippendale.
4 Rose Hebe, J. Holker.
5 Triomphe Royale, W. H. Turner.
6 Comte de Vergennes, Jas. Bramley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Earl of Pembroke, J. Holker.
2 Atticus, ditto.
3 John o'Gaunt, John Bramley.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Sir H. Pottinger, J. Holker.
2 Sir Roger de Coverley, John Bramley.
3 Oliver Goldsmith, J. Holker.

Rose Breeders.

1 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Holker.
2 Lesbia, John Bramley.
3 Lady Lilford, R. Kemp.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Holker.
2 White Perfection, ditto.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF YORK FLORISTS.

The annual show of tulips in connection with this society, took place on Thursday, May 30, at Mrs. Jackson's Hotel, Peter-gate. The judges were Mr. Willison, of Whitby, and Mr. Wood, of York.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Mr. Hepton.
2 Catafalque Super., Mr. Merryweather
3 Charles X., Mr. Hepton.
4 Ditto ditto.
5 Catafalque Superior, Mr. Bell.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Mr. Burnett.
2 Sheet Anchor, Mr. Hepton.
3 Polyphemus, ditto.
4 Ditto ditto.
5 Strong's King, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, Mr. Hepton.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Ditto, Mr. Cowper.
4 Ditto, Mr. Merryweather.
5 Ditto, Mr. Hepton.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Countess Harrington, Mr. Merryweather.
2 Baguet, Mr. Steward.
3 Ditto, Mr. Merryweather.
4 Princess Royal, Mr. Hepton.
5 Van Amburgh, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Hepton.
2 Heroine, Mr. Hepton.
3 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto.
4 Lady Middleton, ditto.
5 Heroine, Mr. Cowper.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Hepton.
2 Aglaia, ditto.
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
4 Aglaia, ditto.
5 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Merryweather

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Maid of Athens, Mr. Steward.
2 Gibbons's Madonna, Mr. Bell.
3 Kosciusko, Mr. Hepton.
4 Lord Byron, ditto,
5 Ditto ditto.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Stanley, Mr. Hepton.
2 Catherine, ditto.
3 Lady Stanley, ditto.

Selfs.

1 King of Selfs, Mr. Burnett.
2 Cotherstone, Mr. Merryweather.
3 King of Selfs, Mr. Merryweather.
4 Min d'Or, Mr. Steward.
5 Ditto, Mr. Bell.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mrs. Rawsthorne's, George and Dragon Inn, Bolton, Lancashire, May 31.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 George IV., G. Knowles.
2 Crown Prince, D. Redford.
3 Catafalque Superior, J. Morris.
4 Leopoldine, R. Berry.
5 Magnum Bonum, J. Knowles.
6 Duke of Wellington, ditto.
7 Trafalgar, W. Yates.
8 Gould Beurs, J. Morris.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre de Beaute, W. Yates.
2 Albion, J. Knowles.
3 Incomparable Bizarre, R. Berry.
4 George IV., J. Barlow.
5 Shakspere, ditto.
6 Don Carlos, J. Knowles.
7 Seedling, J. Suthern.
8 Britannia, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Mango, R. Berry.
2 Violet Winner, J. Knowles.
3 Bienfait, W. Yates.
4 Prince Demarocq, J. Barlow.
5 Pierotte, R. Dunderdale.
6 Incomparable, J. Knowles.
7 La Belle Narene, R. Berry.
8 Baguet, J. Barlow.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Knowles.
2 Wurtenburg, W. Yates.
3 Prince Demarocq, R. Berry
4 Maitre Partout, R. Berry.
5 Violet a Font Noir, J. Morris.
6 Holden's Byblœmen, D. Redford.
7 Fuddler, J. Knowles.
8 Violet Winner, D. Redford.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, R. Dunderdale.
2 Rose Selina, J. Knowles.
3 Andromeda, J. Barlow.
4 Compte de Vergennes, J. Barlow.
5 Seedling, J. Morris.
6 Lady Lilford, R. Berry.
7 Seedling, J. Morris.
8 Duchess of Newcastle, W. Yates.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Knowles.
2 Walworth, J. Morris.
3 Andromeda, R. Berry.
4 Roi de Cerise, ditto.
5 Ponceau Brilliante, W. Yates.
6 Vesta, J. Knowles
7 Lady Lilford, R. Berry.
8 Rose Regina, J. Barlow.

Breeders.

Duke of Devonshire (biz.), J. Barlow
Seedling (byblœmen), R. Dunderdale
Lady Crewe (rose), ditto.

Selfs.

White Flag, J. Morris.
Min d'Or, W. Yates.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE GREAT TRIAL SHOW, AT SLOUGH.

On July the 24th, we started by an early train from Nottingham, on a visit to Slough, near Windsor, to act in the capacity of censor, at the first of the great trial matches between southern and northern-raised carnations and picotees. As we dashed along, there was little time for observation, catching only occasional and hurried glances of "Nature's fair face." We were glad, however, to see a taste for flowers displaying itself at some of the railway stations. At Boxmoor, for instance, there were nice beds, well filled with summer plants; and at Watford also: though at the latter place the beds would have looked better had they been more full of soil; being cut in the turf, the deep raw edge was very objectionable. A few hours brought us to our destination, and we received a most hospitable reception from our friend, Mr. C. Turner. Never having been in that locality before, we were anxious to make the most of our time, by taking a trip to Windsor, knowing full well that we should be too much occupied the succeeding day. We made our way through some ornamental grounds, called "Upton Park," which we should have been glad to have seen in better trim; for in the belt of shrubs skirting the road to Windsor, were abundance of briars and thistles (the latter in full flower), with other weeds of formidable growth. Some of the houses in the park were uninhabited, consequently the piece of what ought to have been *ornamental* ground, attached to them, was in a state of sad neglect. There were, however, exceptions, and in front of one of them, we saw a noble specimen

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of Yucca gloriosa, at least ten feet high, and in full flower. On reaching the steps leading to the castle, from the street, just over the wall, on the right hand, we perceived a sad want of keeping;—there had been a wondrous crop of thistles and docks. Truly they had just been cut down, but there they lay to ripen their seeds, and, at all events, had a very untidy and slovenly appearance. It would be easy enough to plant the ground with some strong-growing evergreens, and by hoeing among them, before the weeds got above the economic point, as the late Mr. London used to say, till the shrubs covered the ground, very little after care would be required. We noticed the beautiful little Antirrhinum cymbalaria growing from many crevices in the old wall, with pretty effect. After visiting St. George's Chapel, and walking on the terrace in front of the castle, enjoying the splendid view over a beautiful and highly cultivated country, we returned to Slough, in order to look through the grounds of Mr. Turner, which have long been celebrated as a first-class nursery, under the management of Messrs Brown, and they lose none of their character or attraction in the possession of the present proprietor. They are intersected with some noble yew and box hedges, and in first-rate keeping, filled with a most excellent stock of all the leading evergreens, as well as the best collection of florists' flowers in the kingdom.

In one compartment were some splendid hollyhocks. Those which particularly took our fancy, and which we would advise the admirers of this plant to inquire about, are, Purpurea elegans, a fine and striking purple, extremely attractive; Elegans, white, delicately shaded; Comet, splendid bright crimson, with long spikes; Mormon, a peculiarly beautiful light purple; Commander in Chief, shaded rose; Blush Queen, a most attractive rose colour; Novelty, perhaps not quite so good in shape as the preceding, but of a most singular colour, bronzy purple, veined; Peach Blossom, as its name implies, delicate pink,

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nicely formed; Rubens, fine salmon colour: Caroline, buff; Mrs. Craigie, an extra fine dark rose; Princess Alice, French white; Queen, very light rose. Most of these were of first-rate form and colour.

In the greenhouses, we saw, amongst other things, a very nice new variety of bedding geranium, a seedling from Lucia rosea. It was raised by Mr. Ingram, of the Royal Gardens, at Frogmore, and is a decided beat on that variety, being of a more lively pink and better formed, with a distinct white centre. In a house stored with achimenes in full bloom, nice dwarf plants, covering the pots with flowers and foliage, were Achimenes sanguinea, with long orange tube and scarlet mouth; A. grandiflora coccinea, new and prolific in flowers; with abundance of the older varieties, arranged in their colours, which had a massive and very pretty effect. Amongst petunias, perhaps the most attractive was Milliez's Beauté Parfaite, a large well-formed light lilac, with distinct blotches of crimson up each lobe. In fuchsias, of which there were thousands of nice plants, from twelve inches to two feet, covered with healthy foliage and flowers, we noticed Kendall's Dr. Grosse, pinky white tube, with scarlet corolla, distinct; Ignea, crimson, with intensely dark corolla; Turner's Expansion, stout tube, rosy centre. There were several very promising seedlings; amongst others, one which came with five sepals, which was observable in every flower that was expanded; the tube was white, with large rosy scarlet corolla. We saw F. corymbiflora alba, which we did not like; the flowers were not white, but flesh-coloured, and it was not so good as we had been led to expect. Story's Duplex, the corolla a very beautiful purple, and though double, it has a confused appearance, which detracts from its beauty.

Pansies and pinks were grown in immense quantities, but as both were out of character, we can say but little about them, except that everything new

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and good may be found in this collection. Verbenas were very beautiful. Chauviere, rich crimson, with dark centre; La Seduisante, French white, with large crimson blotch; Mrs. Mills, extra blue; and Madame Buezod, white, with plum-coloured spot, were all first-rate. The latter is undoubtedly the most distinct and attractive light variety out.

A great many variegated plants are cultivated here. We noticed the Gold-striped Paper Mulbery, the Variegated Currant, the Alnus viminalis variegata, the Yucca filamentosa variegata, Gold-striped Turkey Oak, and many other plants with the foliage marked in curious ways. The stock of pinuses was very large, many being grown in pots. All the best yews; for instance, Taxus adpressa, Fischerii (singularly variegated), elegantissima, &c. Pinus pinsapo, insignis, and cephalonica, were good, and ought to be in every gentleman's grounds. We also saw abundance of young plants of Glycine sinensis, which had been raised from cuttings of the roots. This beautiful hardy climber is now cheap, and deserves a place wherever such things are wanted. The most attractive object, just at the time that we paid our visit, was the conservatory, a handsome erection, lately built, on the ridge and furrow principle. This elegant structure was filled with carnations and picotees, all in full flower. There were about six hundred pots, each containing two plants, and every plant bearing from two to three blooms; so that there could not be many less than three thousand flowers. They comprised the best sorts in cultivation, were beautifully grown, and each bloom was supported by a nice card, giving them a finish which those only who saw them can appreciate. Amongst the varieties we dotted down were, May's Duncan, a crimson bizarre, of first-rate quality, large, without being coarse; Bman's Lord Lewisham, scarlet bizarre, of excellent form, very high colour, and distinct. This we had sent us, last year, and reported favourably of it. There were Emperor, Admiral Curzon (S.B.), Milton (C.B.),

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Flora's Garland (R.F.), Dido, Justice Shallow (S.F.), Squire Trow, Puxley's Perfection and Premier, purple flakes. There were also a great number of extra-fine picotees, both yellow and white-grounds. Amongst the former, were Topaz, Malay Chief, Parsee Bride, &c. Amongst the latter, May's Ophelia (L.P.) was most excellent; Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, and Marris's Prince Albert, medium purple; Dodwell's Mary (L.R.), Alfred (H.P.); but as we shall have to remark on this class more particularly, by and by, we shall omit them here, merely saying that the show in the conservatory was one of the finest sights we have ever witnessed.

Thursday, the 25th of July, was the day appointed for testing the merits of the northern and southern-raised varieties. Mr. Turner's large tulip awning had previously been put up, and over the bed in its centre was placed a table, covered with green baize, on which were arranged the flowers, in raised stands, consisting of six tubes. The pans were shown with cards under the flowers, whilst the classes were without this addition. When arranged for the inspection of the judges (Mr. Neville and ourselves), they looked extremely well; and in passing our opinions on their merits, we did not find that there existed any difference between north and south country florists, as to what ought to constitute a good flower. Only on one occasion did we disagree, when the referee, Mr. J. Edwards, gave his opinion on the flower in question (a heavy-edged purple picotee), in accordance with that of Mr. Neville. This will prove, as we before observed, considering the number of flowers that we had to go through, that our opinions coincided remarkably well. We must now give a short notice of some of the flowers which we thought good.

Mr. Turner's flowers were very excellent; in fact, we think he can grow successfully against any other—we might almost say against any two other growers in the kingdom. In his first pan of northern carnations, there was our old favourite scarlet bizarre,

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Admiral Curzon; and Taylor's Princess, an excellently-formed pink bizarre, was up to the mark. Mr. Barringer, of Bedford, stood second. The noticeable flowers here were Lord Milton (Ely), and Lovely Ann (Ely). The former we still think one of the best crimson bizarres grown; the latter was out of condition, we thought it much more like Flora's Garland. Mr. Dodwell, of Derby, stood third. Pyracanthus, a nice scarlet flake, with Squire Trow, a good addition to the purple flakes, and Admiral Curzon were amongst his best. Mr. Bragg, of Slough, was fourth. Beauty of Woodhouse (P.F.), Paul Pry (C.B.), and King of Scarlets (S.F.), were fine. Mr. Willmer, of Sunbury, was fifth. Amongst his six flowers True Briton (S.B.), and Squire Meynell (P.F.) were highly commendable.

In the southern-raised carnations Mr. Turner was again first. His flowers were large and well grown. Here was Justice Shallow, a new scarlet flake, excellent in form, stout petal, with broad ribbons of dark scarlet. It is not perfection, as the white might be better, but it is really a fine flower, and a decided beat on many sorts out. Puxley's Howard (S.B.) we were very fond of; and May's Lorenzo (R.F.) was beautiful. Mr. Bragg, also of Slough, stood second. His Hero of Middlesex (S F.), raised by that veteran florist, Mr. Willmer, of Sunbury, was as good as ever we saw it; and Hales's Albert (S.B.) was excellent. In the third pan, grown by Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury, Puxley's Prince of Wales was a purple flake of very superior quality, as far as we have seen, decidedly one of the best; Lord Rancliffe (S.B.), a Northampton flower, was also first-rate. M. May, Esq. one of the most successful raisers of seedlings in the kingdom, was fourth, and in his stand we noticed the following three flowers most particularly: Bardolph (May), a splendid high-coloured scarlet bizarre; Falconbridge (May), a pink bizarre, of excellent quality; and Bolingbroke (S.B.(May), the white ground colour pre-eminent, and assuredly it

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will be a great favourite. John Edwards, Esq. was fifth. There was Sarah Payne, one of the best pink bizarres; Flora's Garland, a crack rose flake of the south, was also good, though in this stand the ravages of that sad pest the thrip was apparent.

SOUTHERN PICOTEES.—Here again Mr. Turner was triumphant. May's Ophelia (L.P.P.) we hardly know how to say too much about, therefore we will pass it by, and at the same time advise all those who mean to be first in this class, to get it; Mrs. Barnard (R.P.) was exquisite, more like a wax flower than anything else; Green's Victoria was in its best character, crowning well, though beaten, we think, by Willmer's Princess Royal. Mr. Lockner, of Paddington, was second. Here Lady Harriet Moore, Lorina, and Ophelia, all light-edged purple, were beautiful. M. May, Esq. took the third place. Viola, a remarkably distinct heavy-edged purple, was good. Ophelia was again shown in fine character, in this stand. Mr. Bragg, Slough, stood fourth. Youell's Gem, one of the very best light red picotees, was in remarkably fine character; this variety ought to be one, even in half-a-dozen. Headley's Venus, a heavy-edged rose, was also very attractive. The fifth was Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury. Amongst others, which have been previously alluded to, was Wildman's Isabella, a very distinct and beautiful sort, with a rosy purple margin. The petals slightly cup. Though now a comparatively old sort, still it must be grown.

In northern picotees, Mr. Dodwell, of Derby, stood first. The flowers were all new varieties, and of first-rate character. Dodwell's Mary needs no other eulogium, when it is stated to be a beat on Youell's Gem. Then there was our old friend, Merryweather's Miss Rosa, a chaste rose picotee, of large size, with a medium lace of bright rosy salmon. Marris's two Princes, Albert and Wales, the former purple, the latter red, both exquisite varieties; and then there was Dodwell's Alfred, heavy purple; whoever grows this will be delighted with it. But we find, in endeavouring to notice most of the leading flowers,

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that we are making our article too long. Our friends who are not carnation and picotee growers, must excuse us: but they may be commencing; if so, we trust this article will be of service to them, and thus exonerate us. Mr. C. Turner was second. His pan contained several of the varieties just named. In addition, there was Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, an excellent purple picotee, of great substance and purity; and Marris's Unexpected, a very novel and pretty rose picotee. Mr. Keynes was third. Here was Proconsul (Gatliff), heavy-edged rose; and Lee's Privateer, heavy-edged red. The flowers in this stand were well grown, but they were not of that fine quality exhibited in the two preceding stands. Mr. Willmer was fourth. In his stand was an old favourite purple picotee, Ely's Field Marshal, which was well done.

After we had gone through the various stands, the other flowers were classed. Amongst these, we may name as fine and ought to be grown by every one, independent of those previously alluded to,

Pink Bizarre.—Henry Kirke White, very clean and of good form.

Crimson Bizarre.—A seedling, exhibited by Mr. Young, of Twyford, was fine.

Purple Flakes.—Millwood's Premier, an old variety, but first-rate; Puxley's Perfection, white, beautifully pure, excellent.

Rose Flake.—Prince Arthur, lively, and a very nice sort.

Heavy Red Picotee.—Headley's King James, a rich and striking flower.

Light Red Picotee.—Cassandra (Rev. A. Matthews), clean, and very beautiful.

Light Purple Picotees.—Purity and Circe (Rev. A. Matthews) were very promising, possessing properties of great excellence.

Light Rose Picotee.—Countess Howe, new, and very pretty.

Most of the other flowers in the classes were in good character. We must not, however, forget to mention a fine seedling heavy-edged purple picotee, raised and exhibited by the Rev. A. Matthews, which was disqualified, owing to the pod being split. We much regretted this casualty, as it unquestionably would have stood very high. We hope to see it

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under more favourable circumstances, when we make no doubt our expectations of it will be fully realized. Mr. Hoyles, of Reading, produced a nice stand of yellow picotees, amongst which was Topaz, raised some years ago, by that gentleman, and unquestionably one of the best yet out. Mr. Bragg also exhibited six flowers of his seedling. The petals were smooth and nicely cupped, and the ground colour deep yellow, with distinct marone edge. We highly commended it, and glad shall we be to find that these very beautiful flowers attract that attention which they so richly deserve.

The meeting passed off happily enough: our friend, Mr. Turner, kept open house, there was a profusion of all that was good, and every one, as far as we could learn, was gratified.

Before the company broke up a new society was formed, its title to be "The National Society for the exhibition of Carnations and Picotees." It is to be on the same principle as the tulip show, and to be moved each year from one place to another. A considerable sum was subscribed instanter, and it was agreed that the exhibition for 1851 should be held at Slough, when arrangements would be then made for the next year. From the spirit with which it was taken up, we augur strongly for its success. It has our best wishes, and we trust that, through its instrumentality, many proselytes to the beautiful and health-giving recreation of floriculture will be made.

Our journey home was during the night, and though our couch was none of the softest (one of the seats of a railway carriage), still amidst occasional snatches of sleep, we had most pleasing reminiscences of flowers, florists, and friends, which made some amends for the inconvenience we suffered.

CARNATIONS.

NORTHERN-RAISED.

1, Admiral Curzon, Princess (Taylor), Premier (Millwood), Cradley Pet, Splendour, and Lord Milton, Mr. Turner, Slough. 2. Paul Pry, King of Scarlets, Admiral Curzon, Lord Milton, Premier, and Lovely Ann, Mr. Barringer, Bedford. 3. Premier, Admiral Curzon, Seedling, Beauty of Woodhouse, Squire Trow, and Pyracanthus, Mr. Dodwell, Derby. 4. Defiance,

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Squire Trow, Henry Kirke White, Paul Pry, King of Scarlets, and Beauty of Woodhouse, Mr. Bragg, Slough. 5. King of Scarlets, Victory, True Briton, Squire Meynell, Rainbow, and Queen of England, Mr. Willmer, Sunbury.

SOUTHERN-RAISED.

1. Duncan (May), Justice Shallow (May), Princess Royal (Puxley), Howard (Puxley), Owen Glendower (May), and Lorenzo (May), Mr. Turner. 2. Flora's Garland, Hero of Middlesex, Prince Albert, Prince Arthur, Sarah Payne, and Conquering Hero, Mr. Bragg. 3. Prince Albert (Hale), Sarah Payne, Flora's Garland, Prince of Wales (Puxley), Lord Ranclife, and Prince Albert (Puxley), Mr. Keynes, Salisbury. 4. Simon (May), Percy (May), Falconbridge (May), Bardolph (May), Bolingbroke (May), and Prince Albert (Puxley), Morgan May, Esq. 5. Sarah Payne, Harriet, Prince Albert (Hale), Julia, Flora's Garland, and Lydia, Mr. Edwards, Holloway.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Emperor (Puxley), Mr Turner.
2 Admiral Curzon, ditto.
3 Prince Albert (Hale), Mr. Keynes.
4 Bardolph (May), Mr. Turner.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Lord Milton, Mr. Turner.
2 Seedling, Mr. Young, Twyford.
3 Seedling, ditto.
4 Lord Milton, Mr. Turner.

Pink Bizarres.

1 Henry Kirke White (Taylor), Mr. Turner.
2 Falconbridge (May), M. May, Esq.
3 Falconbridge (May), Mr. Turner.
4 Twyford Perfection, Mr. Keynes.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Justice Shallow (May), Mr. Turner.
2 William IV., Mr. Keynes.
3 Justice Shallow (May), Mr. Turner.
4 Lydia, Mr. Edwards.

Purple Flakes.

1 Premier (Millwood), Mr. Adams.
2 Perfection (Puxley), Mr. Turner.
3 Great Northern (Ely), ditto.
4 Lord Byron, Mr. Adams.

Pink Flakes.

1 Flora's Garland, Mr. Willmer.
2 Prince Arthur, Mr. Adams.
3 Rosetta, Mr. Willmer.
4 Ariel (May), Mr. Turner.

PICOTEES.

SOUTHERN-RAISED.

1. Princess Royal (Willmer), Gem (Youell), Ophelia (May), Mrs. Barnard (Barnard), Queen Victoria (Green), and Cressida (May), Mr. Turner. 2. Princess Royal, Lady Harriet Moore (Turner), Lorina, Queen Victoria (Green), Mrs. Barnard, and Amy, Mr. Lockner, Paddington. 3. Cleopatra, Juliet, Ophelia, Viola, Princess Royal, and Beatrice, M. May, Esq. 4. Gem, Venus, Princess Royal, Portia, Lady Alice Peel, and Jenny Lind, Mr. Bragg. 5. Lady Harriet Moore, Isabella (Wildman), Juliet (May), Princess Royal (Willmer), Useful (Sealey), and Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Keynes.

NORTHERN-RAISED.

1. Mary (Dodwell), Miss Rosa (Merryweather), Prince of Wales (Marris), Alfred (Dodwell), Prince Albert (Marris), and Seedling 26 (Dodwell), Mr. Dodwell. 2. Prince Albert (Marris), Unexpected (Marris), Prince of Wales (Marris), Duke of Rutland (Hollyoake), Alfred (Dodwell), and Mary (Dodwell), Mr. Turner. 3. Proconsul, Emma, Prince Albert, Lady Sale, Lord John Russell, and Privateer, Mr. Keynes. 4. Mr. Green, Prince of Wales, Field Marshal, Fair Ellen, Emperor, and Emily, Mr. Willmer.

Heavy-edged Red

1 Prince of Wales (Marris), Mr. Adams.
2 Ditto, Mr. Dodwell.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 King James (Headley), Mr. Turner.

Light-edged Red.

1 Mary (Dodwell), Mr. Dodwell.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Cassandra, Rev. A. Matthews.
4 Gem (Youell), Mr. Turner.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Prince Albert, Mr. Turner.
2 Juliet, Mr. Bragg.
3 Purity, Rev. A. Matthews.
4 Circe, ditto.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Alfred (Dodwell), Mr. Turner.
2 Viola (May), ditto.
3 Seedling (May), ditto.
4 Viola, M. May, Esq.

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Turner.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Countess Howe (Hollyoake), ditto.

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Queen Victoria (Green), Mr. Turner.
2 Venus (Headley), ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Unexpected (Marris), ditto.

Mr. Turner's stands of southern-raised flowers gained the premier prizes, both in carnations and picotees.

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HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSES.

THE roses of this family are becoming great favourites, and deservedly so. Perfect and beautiful as many of the summer roses are, after flowering for a month or six weeks, we have to wait till the return of "*la belle saison*" before we again enjoy their beauties. With perpetuals it is different; for with a little management we have a succession of flowers for four months in the year. The qualities that recommend them are, perfect hardiness, great sweetness, not generally affected with wet, and equally adapted for standards, dwarfs, or pot culture.

Nearly all our best varieties of roses are of recent origin. Although styled "The Queen of Flowers," more than two thousand years ago, it remained with very little improvement until the present century; and of the varieties I am now going to describe, not one, I believe, were in existence so lately as fifteen years ago. With such rapid strides of improvement before our eyes, what may we expect the genus Rosa eventually to become? It certainly possesses, more than any other, every requisite for ornament and enjoyment—more especially I may mention scent and habit of continuous blooming. All the sorts have been raised by our rose-loving neighbours, the French, principally between varieties of the hybrid Chinese and Bourbon, crossed with the damask perpetuals; and we freely acknowledge ourselves indebted to them for the most beautiful. Many have been "let out" that it would have been better for the purchaser had they been kept in; in fact, quantities are "placed in commerce" every season with little or no merit. The following analysis is drawn up from plants growing in my garden. I have classed them according to colour, describing the best first, and afterwards those that are inferior, or so much like the preceding as scarcely to be distinguished by general observers. I have also marked with an

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asterisk, all things considered, twelve of the most desirable now in cultivation.

CRIMSON.—**Geant des Batailles*, an established favourite, constantly in flower. *Standard of Marengo* (new), colour of the former, but not quite so brilliant; petals and flowers finely cupped, and continues a long time perfect. **Madame Trudeaux*, light crimson, very double, shape fine when just expanded, but immediately after the petals fall back, which certainly is a point against it.

[*Duc d'Isley*, semidouble, useful to the seedling raiser.]

RED.—**Cymedor*, dark red silvery tint, very attractive: the first flowers this season were rather irregular, but it is now (July 9), in great perfection. **Pompon de St. Radegonde*, rosy red, quite a dwarf flower, perfect in shape, grows and blooms freely either as a dwarf, standard, or on its own roots.

[*Comte de Montalivet*, rather loose, petals large, incurved, desirable only where variety is an object.]

CHERRY (RED).—*Robin Hood*, an old rose, distinct and good. *Coquette de Montmorency*, a dwarf, the last in miniature.

PINK.—**Reine des Fleurs*, waxy appearance, very double, a beautiful rose. *Lady Alice Peel*, very good. *Pompon*, very small, quite a gem.

[*Madame Guillot*, I was disappointed in not receiving, but, from undoubted authority, it is first-rate.]

ROSE.—We have many varieties, different shades of this colour, that are described in the catalogues as light crimson, carmine, &c. but they may be referred to the above heading for all useful purposes. **Baron Prevost*, very large. *La Reine*, apt to come with too many petals, when in character, first-rate; should be planted where the soil is not too rich, or grown as a standard. *Comtesse Duchatel*, flowers finely shaped, continues a long time perfect. **Madame Laffay*, one of the oldest varieties, and certainly a favourite, **Clementine Duval*, small grower, distinct and good.

[*Aubernon*, good. *Amanda Pattenotte*, very sweet. *Dr. Marx*, like Baron Prevost, but flowers rather smaller. *Comte de Paris*, dark, not a good grower in all situations. *Earl Talbot*, the darkest in colour, does not open well in wet weather. *Jacques Lafitte* very double, edges paler. *Comte d'Egmont*, petals reflex prettily soon after expansion. *William Jesse*, old, good seed bearer. *General Allard*, very good, uncertain autumnal bloomer. This I intend to seed from. *Polybe* (new), dark, good shape, *Rivers*, free flowerer. *Bouton de Flore*. *Duc d'Aumale*, fine. *Cornet*, rose, with paler margin, cabbage rose scented. *La Bouquetiere*, pale rose, fine foliage. *Mrs. Elliott*, large.]

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LIGHT-COLOURED VARIETIES.—**Duchess of Sutherland*, rather shy autumnal bloomer, grows here better as a standard than on its own roots. **General Negrier* (new), very double, finely shaped. **Duchesse de Montpensier*, blush, beautiful.

[*Clementine Seringe*, very large, very sweet, seed vessel apt to crack. *Marquise Boccella* and *Sidonie*, light rose. *Duchesse de Galliera* (new), very good. *Duchesse de Praslin* (new), light lilac, not first-rate in shape. *Madame Verdier*, a most beautiful variety, but considered a shy grower. My purchased plant died last winter; two stocks that I budded from it last July, have formed heads nearly two feet high, and are now in full flower. If spared, I shall be anxious to see how they grow another season.]

I have other varieties in my collection, but the above list contains most of those that are in much repute. I am aware that other rose growers may not agree with me in every particular relative to the merits of the above. While mankind differ on almost every subject, we can scarcely expect them to agree in every respect on the comparative merits of varieties of plants. The above account is drawn up after much observation and experience, having grown many plants of most of the sorts, both as standards and dwarfs, and if it should prove useful to the readers of your valuable little work, I may perhaps give similar accounts of roses of the other classes. I may add in conclusion, that we have not, as yet, a good very dark, white, or striped hybrid perpetual,* and none adapted for pillars, or as climbers; but these, with superior varieties of the other colours, will undoubtedly be the reward of those who persevere in raising seedlings.

T. ALLESTREE.

* Triomphe de Valenciennes is a new striped hybrid perpetual.—ED.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

MYATT'S SURPRISE STRAWBERRY.—Raised from seed of the British Queen, by Mr. Myatt, Manor Farm, Deptford. It is more robust even than the parent, producing large fruit in great profusion.

WILMOT'S PRINCE ARTHUR STRAWBERRY is another candidate for public favour. It comes out with a very high character. From its dwarf habit, it is recommended not to be planted more than a foot apart. It is large and of fine flavour.

GOOSEBERRIES.

We have received the following communication from our friend, Mr. Thomas Chippendale, of Tottleworth, near Enfield, Lancashire:—

"Probably you, and some of your readers, will be glad to hear of something new and *very good* in the gooseberry line. I will, therefore, give you a description of a few seedlings, shown at the Falstaff Inn, Market-place, Manchester, on the 3rd of August last. This exhibition is an open one, and the committee are most happy to receive specimens from any part of England, to test them against old varieties.

"Having been a judge from the commencement, I have had an excellent opportunity of forming an opinion of the various sorts exhibited.

"On the day named, there was a yellow seedling, raised and grown by our old friend, Mr. Joseph Leicester. It is after the colour of Broom Girl, with very strong veins, rather rough, and to all appearance, will be a very large sort. It was named

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Go-by, and took the premier prize, beating London and all others. Its weight was 23dwts. 18grs. Being unripe at the time, it may be considered very good for the present season.

"The same old gentleman has another seedling, called *Stella*, a very promising variety, long and smooth, rather dark yellow, somewhat in the style of Marigold. Unfortunately the one sent was burst.

"There was also another fine seedling, unnamed, exhibited by Mr. Joseph Hilton, of Middleton. In character, the three berries shown were like ripe Freedoms, but rough as Lady Leicester, and it appears to be a cross between the two above named. To all appearance, a first-rate sort for exhibition; in fact, all three sorts are in many respects *stunners*.

"I also saw a fruit of *Hue and Cry*, so favourably noticed by you last year, and I liked it as well as the best of them. It will be one of the first, if not the first of all."

HARICOT D'ALGER was exhibited at the Horticultural-rooms, Regent-street, on the 6th of August. It has no tough lining, and can be eaten much older than other French Beans. The colour is not good, looking old even when young.

Two new cabbages were also exhibited, CHOU DE POMERAINE and another, unnamed. Both are described as being handsomely formed, and of first-rate quality.

FLOWERS.

HOWEVER florists or others may differ in their likes or dislikes of particular flowers, we think that most agree in admiring the ranunculus. Immense improvement has taken place since we can recollect, and we shall now introduce to our readers some of first-rate character.

Interester (Tyso).—Excellent shape, very pure white, laced with purple, delicate and distinct.

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Melancthon (Tyso).—This fine variety has a cream ground colour, deeply margined with purple.

Elegance (Tyso).—A striking and attractive sort; body colour yellow, with rich red margin.

Splendour (Lightbody).—Delicate white ground, with distinct rose spots; beautiful.

Lord Gough (Costar).—Buff body colour, finely edged with purple; very distinct.

Emperor (Wollard).—Yellow ground, margined with red.

Salome (Tyso).—A fine sort; cream, edged with rich crimson.

Eliacine (Tyso).—White, each petal margined with bright purple.

Exhibiter (Tyso).—Very novel and splendid; the ground colour is yellow, with large carmine spots.

Invoker (Tyso).—White ground, spotted with purple.

HARDY PLANTS.

THE conifera are now much sought after, as ornamental trees, and deservedly so. Those who have the means, as well as space, should devote some portion to this splendid tribe of plants.

Pinus Pinsapo is a very beautiful plant, of peculiar rigid growth, easily distinguished, and contrasting well with others of the pine tribe. There is a nice specimen in the nursery of Mr. C. Turner, Slough.

P. Fraserii.—This species has thick and small foliage; fine habit. The whole plant has a peculiar silvery appearance.

P. Webbiana.—We saw this at least ten feet high, in the nursery of Messrs. Fisher, Holmes, & Co. of Sheffield. For the first few years, the leading shoot was destroyed by frost; but on their taking the precaution to place a piece of cloth immediately above it, like a small canopy, it has escaped this misfortune, and now, having reached the height named, does not appear to be affected by frost. It is a splendid tree, like a gigantic silver fir.

P. Pallasiana.—A beautiful sort, of close growth. Coming from Siberia, it bears our winters better than some of the Nepaul species. It grows freely, and apparently accommodates itself to most situations.

P. Insignis.—This we think very beautiful, with long dark green foliage, and very dense upright habit. Ought to be extensively planted. Our plants have a disposition to send up several erect branches.

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Picea Cephalonica.—A very handsome tree, somewhat like P. pinsapo. Some are apt to have the points of the shoots taken in the spring, our specimen has yet escaped.

For ornamental grounds, the above will be found most desirable; and with such plants as Cryptomeria Japonica, the Cedruses Deodara, argentea, and Libani, and Araucaria imbricata, &c. would prove invaluable to all who love beautiful evergreen trees.

Rhododendrons are great favourites of ours, perhaps because we can grow them well in our common loam, without being at the trouble of fetching peat soil from a distance of ten or twelve miles. There is a new sort, though rather dear yet, which will be grown by every one who can procure it. We give the description of a first-rate cultivator. It is named

Towardii.—It is a giant in every respect—gigantic grower and foliage, gigantic truss and flower, of great substance, and beautifully cupped. Acknowledged by all rhododendron growers to be a perfect model. Its colour is rosy lilac, spotted.

R. Sir I. Newton.—This is also a flower of very large size; colour a beautiful deep crimson purple.

R. Rœanum.—Splendid crimson, the throat thickly studded with black spots.

R. Vervarianum.—This has very fine double flowers, deep purplish rose. Flowers in June, a point of some importance, as many of our finest varieties bloom early, and are therefore liable to be cut off by frosts in the spring.

R. Giganteum.—Deep rose; well named, for the trusses of flowers are immensely large.

R. Captivation.—An extra fine variety. The petals are bright rosy crimson, with black spots.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

Chater's Queen of England Hollyhock.—This is a most beautiful rose-coloured variety; form pre-eminent; the best of its class we have seen.

Puxley's Jenny Lind Crimson Bizarre Carnation.—We are always sorry to differ in opinion with our friends, but we see that in the letter of Mr. John

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Slater, of Cheetham Hill, near Manchester, to the *Durham Advertiser*, he states that at the Derby carnation and picotee exhibition, his (Mr. Slater's) Gladiator "was allowed to be the best crimson bizarre on the stage." As far as the *judges were concerned* this is a mistake, for they *were unanimous* in their opinion as to Puxley's Jenny Lind being by far the best there. In opposition to several eminent florists, we gave a favourable opinion of Gladiator, when submitted to us as a seedling, and we see no reason to alter it now; but as a faithful chronicler of events, we should not be doing our duty to our brother florists, did we not notice the above. Jenny Lind, like its namesake, will be a favourite with every one; it is beautiful in form, pure in the white, and rich in colour.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR SEPTEMBER.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

ALL the seed that can be saved up to the middle of this month, should be sown as often as a sufficient quantity can be got together; but we recommend that all that can be procured after that time (and there may be a considerable quantity) should stand over till May, and be sown in pans, as before directed.

If pansies are grown successively on the same spot, a part of the soil should be removed, so as to introduce a good quantity of fresh earth. The best for this purpose will be the top-spit of a meadow that has been laid up some time. Take care that it is free from wireworms; and commence at once, that the beds may be well prepared to receive the plants

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next month. (See instructions for March.) Put in a liberal quantity of cuttings of good kinds, at this time; place them in pots, and continue to do so for six weeks to come, if a large increase is required. Choose the young side shoots from healthy plants.

COTTAGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY, IN CONNECTION WITH THE GEE CROSS SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The members of this society (which was noticed in the April number of the *Midland Florist*) held their first flower show on Saturday, 20th July last, when the prizes were awarded as follows:—

WINDOW PLANTS.

Fuchsias.

1 Exoniensis, W. Taylor.
2 Dr. Jepson, T. Stafford.
3 Ocean Monarch, J. Stafford.
4 Dr. Jepson, J. Stafford.

Geraniums and Roses.

1 R. Mrs. Bosanquet, W. Hollingworth.
2 (Not awarded.)
3 G. Foster's Seedling, T. Hyde.
4 G. Camilla, W. Fogg.

Petunias and Verbenas.

1 P. Prince Albert, John Booth.
2 P. Seedling, W. Fogg.
3 V. Milindres, John Lawton.
4 V. Emma, T. Hyde.

Miscellaneous

1 Maurandya Barclayana, E. Thorneley.
2 Calceolaria Diomede, C. Leah.
3 Cuphea Platycentra, E. Thorneley.

VEGETABLES AND FRUITS.

1 Strawberries, J. Stafford.
2 Early Warwick Peas, W. Fogg.

Best Bouquet, John Fellows.

EXTRA.

1 Fuchsia Purity, T. Stafford.
2 Fuchsia Exoniensis, T. Houghton.
3 Fuchsia Exoniensis, John Booth.

The show, although a somewhat novel experiment, far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its projectors. About 120 window plants were brought for competition, and most of them were exceedingly well grown and healthy. The vegetables and fruits sent for competition, too, were remarkably fine. Besides the plants belonging to the competitors, the room contained a number of greenhouse plants, which added greatly to the interest of the exhibition. The walls of the room were adorned with festoons of honeysuckles, with roses and other flowers intertwined; and altogether, the room presented a very charming appearance. All who visited the show expressed their surprise at the skill shown in the growth of the plants. Of the window plants, the fuchsias were the most abundant and the most beautiful. The plant which obtained the first prize in this class was a noble specimen, standing about four feet high, with branches gracefully drooping on all sides, laden with flowers, and almost concealing the pot; and some of the others were little inferior to it. The prized consisted of gardening implements of various kinds, the funds for the purchase of which were derived from a subscription of 1s. each by the members, and from small voluntary contributions by the friends of the school.

REVIEWS.

BECK'S FLORIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY, No. 32.

TALK of feathered tulips! What a gem is *Scarnell's Bijou*, as here represented. Every florist will, we are sure, be most anxious to possess it; and in order

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to form some conception of the flower, they had better purchase its portrait in the first instance. It was raised from seed by Mr. Scarnell, of Brixton; the form is excellent, deeply feathered with rich crimson. The contents of this number, as usual, are select. There is a very good chapter on Roses—On Floricultural Tastes and their Results—Regent's Park and Chiswick Exhibitions, &c. &c. To us, the most interesting part is an account of the meetings at Worton Cottage, which we think ought to be in the body of the work, rather than on the cover; though perhaps a tabular statement of all the new flowers which come before the censors, will be published in one of the later numbers of the year. Our readers will find this one of the most instructive and elegant of the floral publications.

THE JOURNAL OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THIS is part the third of the fifth volume, and contains some most valuable papers. For instance, Gartner's Observations upon Muling amongst Plants —On the Introduction of New Coniferous Trees into Parks—also a Catalogue of Coniferous Plants, with their Synonyms, which was much wanted. There is also the Report from the Council to the Anniversary Meeting.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY. Part 7.

THE illustrations are, *Amaryllis acramanii pulcherrima; Grammanthes gentianoides*, a very beautiful new and dwarf annual; *Ixora Griffithii; Roupalia grata;* and a fine plate of the *Pelargoniums Ajax, occellatum*, and *May Queen*. There are also numerous woodcuts, illustrative of decorative gardening; as well as the Climate and Vegetation of the Himalayas. The other papers of interest are, Preparation of the Carnation for exhibition—Culture of the Amaryllis—Construction of Tank for Water Plants, &c. &c.

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OBITUARY.

On the 17th of June last, Mr. Ninian Nivin, aged 70, one of the best gardeners in Perthshire, N.B., as well as the most successful cultivator of florists' flowers in that part of the country.

Part III.

QUERIES.

I see in your July number of the *Midland Florist*, in describing the tulips at the great northern show, you commence with Slater's Kate Connor. One was broken by Mr. Thomas Chippendale; I shall be obliged if you, or any of your correspondents will be kind enough to inform me who broke the flamed one that you saw. A Subscriber from the First.

Having been a subscriber from the first to your valuable little work, the *Midland Florist*, I see in vol. 1, p. 185, under the head "budding," you observe that the Persian yellow rose is extremely short lived when budded on the common dog rose stock, at least in the midland counties. I wish you had gone further, and given your opinion upon what stock it would have best succeeded; for, lacking such knowledge, I have this year inserted buds of that rose on the common dog rose stock, which I should not have done, if you had pointed out a better. If, in your next number, you can give the desired information, it will greatly oblige me, as well as, in all probability, many others of your numerous readers; for, although I have been a great tulip and carnation fancier for the last forty years, I have not paid that attention to the rose it so richly deserves. As I am upon this subject, and your pages open to all hints that are likely to benefit florists, I must mention that in my boyhood, I saw, in Devonshire, the old double yellow rose grown to the highest perfection. It was situated in a south-east aspect, and grown in a stiff marly clay; in fact, the soil was so stiff that I was surprised at seeing anything thrive in it; but the rose tree I speak of, which was an old and large tree, surpassed in beauty anything of the sort I have ever seen, having hundreds of fine blooms open at once. So struck was I with the sight, that I could not rest until I obtained a young tree from my

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friend, which I planted in a more friable soil; and the consequence was, that in a dozen years I had not more than two blooms, and those very insignificant, and at last the tree died, which goes a great way to prove that the yellow rose delights in a stiff marly soil, and moderately warm aspect. I have been told that a garbled account of a monstrous bloom of hyacinths, I produced about forty years ago, has appeared in some work or works on floriculture, and I have been requested by some of my friends to give you the facts as they occurred, with the impression that they must prove of value to those who delight in that favourite flower. Should you think it worthy of notice, and acceptable to my brother florists, I will at some time give you an account of the circumstance, which was purely accidental.

J. H.

[We should prefer the Boursault rose, or the Manettii, for the yellow Persian rose. The other yellow rose is very capricious, and beats our best gardeners. We shall be glad to have the account of the hyacinths, and make no doubt it will be highly interesting to our readers, as well as ourselves.]

What will be the best cabbages for me to plant? I have a rood of land, which has been well manured for potatoes, and as there are evident symptoms of disease, I thought of getting the whole of them up, and putting in early cabbage. R. S.

[We would recommend any or all of the following sorts:—Waite's King of Cabbage, Improved Nonpareil, Shilling's Queen, and Enfield Market. They are all good.]

Which are the best strawberries for exhibition, at the same time combining beauty and flavour? H. W.

[Our correspondent will see, in the present number, two new varieties named. As an early variety, there is Princess Alice Maud. For general cropping and good qualities, few beat Kean's Seedling. Myatt's British Queen has been very large and fine this season, and much better coloured than usual. Comte de Paris has been grown very large and fine in this neighbourhood. Mammoth is quite worthy of its name, being very large, and of a rich deep crimson, but its flavour is against it, and it is at the same time an idle bearer. The Bicton White is large and tolerably well flavoured, but its colour is against it; it soon tarnishes after it is plucked; it will never be popular, or do for a market strawberry. Eleanor (Myatt) is a beautiful strawberry, conical, rich scarlet, rather more acid than the other varieties. Goliath (Kitley), a noble fruit, very high coloured, and very large; also of excellent flavour. We can recommend this variety very strongly. Globe (Myatt) is smaller than either of the above, nevertheless, a fair sized fruit: it is light coloured, globular in form, and of very excellent flavour.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GREENFLY ON DAHLIAS.—Try Mr. Allestree's plan. See p. 240.

BERBERIS AQUIFOLIA.—A correspondent puts the following question to us:—"What use can I make of the black fruit produced on my plants of Berberis aquifolia (Holly-leaved Barberry)? The fruit is excessively acid, and the juice a beautiful claret colour." We can inform our friend that we are now experimenting on this fruit, having made some wine of the berries. The result we will, in due course, lay before our readers. If these berries can be turned to account, no doubt the trees would be planted extensively, as they make excellent undercover in plantations, and to all appearance, would bear a much greater weight of fruit than black currant trees of similar size. We think attention should be turned to this plant; as it is easily raised from seed, improved varieties, both in size and flavour of the fruit, might, we imagine, be easily attained.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR SEPTEMBER.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Bulbous-rooted plants, such as *snowdrops*, the various kinds of *narcissi*, *crown imperials*, *irises*, &c. that have grown too large, or that it is advisable to increase the number of patches of in the flower border, should be taken up, divided, and replanted. It is far better to do it now than at a later period.

It is also a good time to propagate all sorts of *bedding* or *half hardy plants*, for next year. Many of our readers have conveniences, by means of which they are enabled to preserve them through the winter. For *verbenas*, the pots should be well drained, and filled with sandy loam. There will be found abundance of rooted layers on the plants in the border; these must be removed, made into small-sized plants, and inserted round the side of the pot—eight or ten in a pint will be sufficient. It is not advisable to leave a large or straggling top to them. In the same manner *heliotropes*, *Salvia oppositifolium*, &c., *petunias*, &c. should be planted; but these, if possible, should be put into a hotbed, or where there is a command of gentle heat. There are also many *perennial border plants*, which should now be propagated by slips. These are *pentstemons*, *cherianthuses*, and others of similar character. The small shoots, of recent formation, about an inch long, should be inserted in

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the open border, under a hand or bell-glass; they will soon strike roots.

A cold frame may be usefully employed, by placing in it a quantity of pots in which are sown *tenweek stocks, collinsia, erysimum*, and other good and ornamental *annuals*. If these are preserved during the winter, and pricked out in the open borders during the showers of next April, they will make a beautiful display.

Pink pipings should be planted out forthwith, if not already done; and the early-rooted *carnations* and *picotees* will also be ready by the middle of the month. It is a bad plan to winter them in soil of too rich a description.

Dahlias.—Should the weather prove dry, these plants will want abundance of water, with occasional doses of liquid manure. Attend to all precautions against insects, &c. Shade the blooms, and give the plants every attention possible.

GREENHOUSE.

Those plants which have been out of doors should be repotted towards the middle of the month, and brought into winter quarters. *Cuttings of geraniums*, &c., should also be placed in small pots.

Calceolarias.—If any seed has been saved, it ought now to be sown; and the old plants should be kept remarkably clean.

Cinerarias may be propagated by off-shoots; then should be put in rich soil, in small pots, for wintering. Let there be plenty of ventilation, and if possible, shade the plants during the hot weather which often occurs this month.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Potatoes in some situations are exhibiting symptoms of disease. We have tried the plan of immediately pulling the haulm, and allowing the tubers to remain in the ground; for it certainly is a bad practice to get them up and place them in a heap, the sound ones and diseased together.

Onions should be pulled as soon as ready, and allowed to dry in some warm, sunny situation. Get ready spare land (by digging and well manuring it) for a good breadth of *cabbage plants*. It is always advisable to cover all available space, and should the potato disease be prevalent, they will be wanted.

Small *salading* may still be sown advantageously; and *Black seeded Bath, Hardy Green Coss*, or *Brown Dutch lettuce*, to stand the winter.

This will be a good time to make plantations of *strawberries*. Last month, we alluded to a few good sorts. Stout loam, well enriched, is the most suitable soil for them, giving the plants from twelve to eighteen inches each way. In the artizan's or cottager's garden, they may be planted by the sides of the paths, removing the runners as they appear.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. John Harrison, the Mason's Arms Inn, Market-place, Middleton, near Manchester, Monday, May 25.

Pans of Three Varieties.—1. Duke of St. Albans, Sturge, and Black-eyed Susan, M. Partington. 2. Duke of St. Albans, Sturge, and Kay's Mary, W. Taylor. 3. Huntsman, Sturge, and Miss Jessop, S. Raynor. 4. Duke of St. Albans, Sturge, and Kay's Mary, R. Lancashire. 5. Solon, Sturge, and Kay's Mary, C. Stott. 6. Duke of St. Albans, Sturge, and Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, J. Buckley. 7. Huntsman, Sir William, and Blackeyed Susan, J. Bamford.

Purple-laced.

1 Duke of St. Albans, J. Manock.
2 Huntsman, R. Lancashire.
3 Mango, W. Taylor.
4 Coronation, S. Raynor.
5 Greensides, Colonel Lee.
6 William Tell, ditto.
7 Suwarrow, J. Clegg,
8 Seedling, J. Buckley.

Red-laced.

1 Sturge, W. Taylor.
2 Susannah, S. Raynor.
3 Dr. Hepworth, C. Stott.
4 Sir William, S. Raynor.
5 Little Wonder, C. Stott
6 Criterion, R. Hall.
7 Rachael, W. Taylor.
8 Seedling, ditto.

Black and White.

1 Snowball, Colonel Lee.
2 Miss Jessop, M. Partington.
3 Kay's Mary, C. Stott.
4 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, Col. Lee.
5 Blackeyed Susan, J. Beswick.
6 Virgin Queen, M. Partington.
7 Beauty of Home, ditto.
8 Purity, Colonel Lee.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Joseph Glave, Golden Ball and Florist Hotel, Milligate Stockport, May 30.

Premier Prize.—Charles X., Wm. Alsop.
Maiden Kettle.—Surpass Catafalque, S. Earl.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Alsop.
2 Surpass Catafalque, S. Earl.
3 Magnum Bonum, ditto.
4 Firebrand, W. Alsop.
5 Duc de Savoy, S. Earl.
6 Waterloo, W. Alsop.
7 Crown Prince, S. Earl.
8 Liberty, J. Hardy.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, W. Alsop.
2 Unknown, S. Earl.
3 Wellington, B. Shottin.
4 Charles X., ditto.
5 Lustre, S. Earl.
6 Lacantique, ditto.
7 Crown Prince, J. Warren.
8 Unknown, D. Woolley.

Feathered Byblœmens.

Bienfait, W. Alsop.
2 Mango, ditto.
3 Baguet, B. Shottin.
4 Ambassador, J. Hardy.
5 La Belle Narene, W. Alsop.
6 Unknown, S. Earl.
7 Violet Winner, B. Shottin.
8 Washington, J. Sawyer.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Incomparable, S. Earl.
2 Rex, ditto.
3 Baguet, ditto.
4 Princess Royal, W. Alsop.
5 Grotius, B. Shottin.
6 Bienfait, S. Earl.
7 Rubens, ditto.
8 Diana, J. Warren.

Feathered Roses.

1 Count, S. Earl.
2 Lady Crewe, W. Alsop.
3 Dolittle, S. Earl.
4 Newcastle, J. Robinson.
5 Heroine, J. Warren.
6 Duc de Bronte, W. Alsop.
7 Unknown, J. Hardy.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, S. Earl.
2 La Vandikken, ditto.
3 Aglaia, ditto.

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4 Vesta, J. Warren.
5 Lord Hill, S. Earl.
6 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
7 Lady Crewe, D. Woolley.
8 Unknown, J. Warren.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Albert, B. Shottin.
2 Maid of Orleans, J. Robinson.
3 Unknown, D. Woolley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Surpass Catafalque, J. Warren.
2 Unknown, D. Woolley.
3 Unknown, B. Shottin.

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, W. Alsop.
2 Unknown, D. Woolley.
3 Newcastle, J. Robinson.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Robinson.
2 White Flag, J. Warren.

LEICESTER FLORAL SOCIETY.

The Society's exhibition of Tulips took place on Friday, May 31.

Pans of Six.—1. Allen's Byblœmen, Hepton's Sarah, Magnum Bonum, Triomphe Royale, Capt. White, and Feathered Triomphe Royale, R. Marris. 2. Bagot, Albion, Triomphe Royale, Magnum Bonum, Lady Middleton, and Imperatrix Florum, W. Mitchell. 3 Shakspere, Tromphe Royale, Slater's Bijou, Violet Alexander, Magnum Bonum, and Feathered Triomphe Royale, G. Evans.

Pans of Three.—1. Triomphe Royale, Violet Alexander, and Lawrence's Polyphemus, R. Marris. 2. Triomphe Royale, Wood's Dr. Hooke, and Victory, W. Mitchell. 3. Feathered Triomphe Royale, Bagot, and Magnum, F. W. Hollyoake. 4. Triomphe Royale, Gibbons's Elegance, and Magnum, G. Evans. 5. Aglaia, Gibbons's Byblœmen, Unknown, and Shakspere, J. Cooke. 6. Lord Hill, Violet Alexander, and Magnum, Rev. S. Wigg 7. Feathered Triomphe Royale, Gibbons's Byblœmen Unknown, and Capt. White, R. Harris, jun.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Old Dutch Catafalque, R. Harris, jun.
2 Pilot, J. Cooke.
3 Charbonnier Noir, ditto.
4 Trafalgar, W. Mitchell.
5 Ditto ditto.
6 Old Dutch Catafalque, R. Harris, jun.
7 Unknown, ditto.
8 Seedling No. 6, W. Mitchell.

Flamed Bizarres

1 Lawrence's Polyphemus, R. Marris.
2 Ditto, W. Mitchell.
3 Magnum Bonum, G. Evans.
4 Surpass Catafalque, R. Marris.
5 Captain White, ditto.
6 Duke of Devonshire, ditto.
7 Sir Sidney Smith, ditto.
8 Polyphemus, F. W. Hollyoake.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Ambassador, R. Marris.
2 Gibbons's breeder, unknown, J. Cooke
3 Unknown, W. Mitchell.
4 Unknown, ditto.
5 Unknown, ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Gibbons's Duchess of Sutherland, F. W. Hollyoake.
2 Gibbons's Prince Albert, ditto.
3 Unknown, R. Harris, jun.
4 Countess of Harrington, W. Mitchell.
5 Unknown, R. Harris, jun.
6 Lawrence's Friend, F. W. Hollyoake.
7 Washington, W. Mitchell.
8 Violet Alexander, F. W. Hollyoake.

Feathered Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, R. Marris.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Ditto, W. Mitchell
4 Sherwood Rose, ditto.
5 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
7 Walworth, ditto.
8 Ditto ditto.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, W. Mitchell.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Camillius, R. Marris.
4 Triomphe Royale, W. Mitchell.
5 Ditto, Rev. S. Wigg.
6 Walworth, W. Mitchell.
7 Unique, ditto.
8 Unknown, R. Harris, jun.

TULIP SHOW,

At the Lomax Arms, Great Harwood, June 1.

Best Pan of Six Dissimilar Blooms.—Charles X., San Joe, Bienfait, Baguet, La Belle Nanette, La Vanlikken, T. Chippendale.

Best Pan of Three Feathered Blooms.—Charles X., Bienfait, La Belle Nanette, J. Holker.

Premier Prize.—La Belle Nanette, E. Hodson, jun.

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Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., T. Chippendale.
2 Wellington, R. Housman.
3 Trafalgar, J. Morehouse.
4 Strong's Globe, J. Holker.
5 Surpass Optimus, T. Chippendale.
6 Catafalque Superieure, J. Holker.
7 Unknown, T. Whalley.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 San Joe, R. Housman.
2 Duke of Lancaster, J. Holker.
3 Paganini, R. Housman.
4 Charbonnier, T. Chippendale.
5 Pilot, ditto.
6 Lustre, J. Baron.
7 Albion, T. Whalley.

Feathered Byblæmens.
1 Buckley's Beauty, J. Holker.
2 Baguet, ditto.
3 Louis XVI., ditto.
4 La Belle Narene, T. Chippendale.
5 Gibbons, ditto.
6 Grotius, R. Housman.
7 Winner, T. Gibson.

Flamed Byblæmens.
1 Violet Cook, T. Chippendale.
2 Baguet, J. Holker.
3 Unknown, ditto.
4 General Barneveldt, J. Holker.
5 Siam, ditto,
6 La Belle Narene.
7 Pucella de Dart, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Roses.
1 Count, T. Chippendale.
2 La Belle Nanette, ditto.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Holker.
4 Andromeda, R. Birtwistle.
5 Hero of the Nile, John Baron.
6 Hamlet, J. Holker.
7 Dolittle, T. Gibson.

Flamed Roses.
1 Bell's Best Rose, E. Hodgson.
2 Rose Unique, J. Holker.
3 Aglaia, J. Baron.
4 La Vandikken, R. Housman.
5 Lady Crewe, J. Holker.
6 Rose Hebe, ditto.
7 Triomphe Royale, J. Baron.

Breeders
Polyphemus, J. Moorehouse.
Pottinger, J. Holker.
Bion, T. Whalley.

Selfs.
Min d'Or, J. Holker.
White Perfection, ditto.

Judges—Thomas Birtwell, gardener to J. Taylor, Esq.; Robert Norris, Preston; James Foulds, Blackburn.

The tulips were truly splendid, and it was one of the best shows that ever took place in that part of Lancashire. At the great northern shows, the flowers were not ready, owing to the very unpropitious season. Not only in this instance, but also from various other quarters, we have learnt that the exhibitions abounded in first-rate flowers; and from what we know personally of the collections, we believe Lancashire is able to contend with any county in England.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. J. Shaw, Bull's Head Inn, Mottram, June 1.

Premier Prize.—Lady Crewe, Joseph Oldham.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Trafalgar, G Royle.
2 Crown Prince, J. Dearnaley.
3 Duc de Savoy, G. Royle.
4 Seedling, J. Oldham.
5 Charles X., G. Royle.
6 Firebrand, J. Oldham.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Surpass Lacantique, J. Oldham.
2 Old Lacantique, G. Royle.
3 Black Prince, ditto.
4 Albion, J. Oldham.
5 Hercules, G. Royle.
6 Seedling, J. Oldham.

Feathered Byblæmens.
1 Violet Winner, J. Dearnaley.
2 Sportsman, G. Royle.
3 Bienfait, J. Oldham.
4 Baguet, G. Royle.
5 Clotilda, Joseph Oldham.
6 Buckley's 46, J. Dearnaley.

Flamed Byblæmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Dearnaley.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Incomparable, G. Royle.
4 Seedling, J. Oldham.
5 Unknown, ditto.
6 Seedling, J. Dearnaley.

Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, Joseph Oldham.
2 Comte de Vergennes, James Oldham.
3 Heroine, G. Royle.
4 Dolittle, J. Oldham.
5 Seedling, J Dearnaley.
6 Duc de Bronte, J. Oldham.

Flamed Roses.
1 Rose Vesta, G. Royle.
2 Rose Unique, Joseph Oldham.
3 Rose Luna, J. Oldham.
4 Rose Matilda, J. Dearnaley.
5 Comte de Vergennes, G. Royle.
6 Seedling, J. Dearnaley.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Buckley's No. 5, Joseph Oldham.
2 Unknown, G. Royle.

Byblæmen Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Oldham.
2 Unknown, G. Royle.

Rose Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Dearnaley.
2 Lady Crewe, ditto.

Selfs.
1 White Flag, G. Royle.
2 Min d'Or, ditto.

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TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Wm. Johnson, Boar's Head, Leigh, June 1, 1850.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Royal Sovereign, W. Battersby.
2 Surpass Catafalque, R Tonge.
3 Lord Lilford, A. Blackburn.
4 Magnum Bonum, J. Postlethwaite
5 Paul Pry, W. Battersby.
6 Crown Prince, R. Prescot.
7 Trafalgar, W. Leather.
8 Goud Beurs, R. Tonge.
9 Wellington, R. Prescot.
10 Duc de Savoy, A. Blackburn.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Albion, G. Mort.
2 Charbonnier, W. Battersby.
3 Lustre, Patrick Buckley.
4 Pass Lacantique, W. Leather.
5 Old Dutch Catafalque, R. Prescot.
6 Duke of Devonshire, W. Battersby
7 Emperor de Moscow, J. Thompson.
8 Liberty, P. Buckley.
9 San Joe, W. Battersby.
10 Wellington, A. Belshaw.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Edgar, W. Battersby.
2 Baguet, W. Leather.
3 Washington, G. Mort.
4 La Belle Narene, W. Battersby.
5 Ambassador, ditto.
6 Lord Morpeth, ditto.
7 Violet Winner, P. Buckley.
8 Unknown, W. Battersby.
9 Lancashire Hero, ditto,
10 Duchess of Derinburgh, R. Prescot.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, A. Blackburn.
2 Magnificent, W. Banks.
3 Lady Flora Hastings, W. Battersby.
4 Wallers, A. Blackburn.
5 Siam, R. Prescot.
6 Magnus, W. Battersby.
7 Toot, W. Leather.
8 La Belle Narene, G. Mort.
9 Incomparable, ditto.
10 Unknown, R. Long.

Feathered Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, J. Buckley.
2 Seedling, J. Thompson.
3 Walworth, A. Belshaw.
4 Count, G. Mort.
5 Andromeda, J. Buckley.
6 Seedling, A. Blackburn.
7 Lady Crewe, J. Boardman.
8 Dolittle, R. Prescot.
9 Duc de Bronte, J. Buckley.
10 Rose Celina, ditto.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, W. Battersby.
2 Roi de Cerise, W. Leather.
3 Lord Hill, G. Mort.
4 Vesta, W. Battersby.
5 Lady Lilford, ditto.
6 Ponceau Brilliant, A. Blackburn.
7 Rose Regina, J. Boardman.
8 Triomphe Royale, R. Tongue.
9 Rose Camuse, A. Blackburn.
10 Matilda, P. Buckley.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. A. Chadwick's, Admiral Tollemache Arms, Mottram, June 1.

Premier Prize.—Charles X. and Unique, T. Summers.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., T. Summers.
2 Rising Sun, J. Barratt.
3 Crown Prince, J. Bradley.
4 Trafalgar, T. Summers.
5 Surpass Catafalque, T. Penkathman.
6 Duc de Savoy, J. Barratt.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Surpass Lacantique, J. Oldham.
2 Albion, T. Penkathman.
3 Lustre, John Oldham.
4 Unknown, J. Shawcross.
5 Turner's Bizarre, T. Penkathman.
6 Unknown, T. Summers.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Bradley.
2 Unknown, R. Hinchcliffe.
3 Violet Winner, T. Chadwick.
4 Washington, T. Summers.
5 Ambassador, ditto.
6 Buckley's 46, T. Penkathman.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Barratt.
2 Incomparable, ditto.
3 Siam, ditto.
Gadsby's Magnificent, ditto.
5 Unknown, T. Penkathman.
6 Turner's No. 18, J. Oldham.

Feathered Roses.

1 Count, J. Oldham.
2 Lady Crewe, T. Summers.
3 Dolittle, J. Barratt.
4 Unknown, J. Oldham.
5 Unknown, T. Penkathman.
6 Duc de Bronte, J. Oldham.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Shawcross.
2 Vesta, T. Summers.
3 Spooner's Brilliant, J. Barratt.
4 Unknown, T. Penkathman.
5 Unknown, R. Hinchcliff.
6 Unknown, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Bradley.
2 Unknown, ditto.
3 Seedling, J. Barratt.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling, J. Barratt.
2 Clegg's No. 5, T. Summers.
3 Unknown, J. Bradley.

Rose Breeders.

1 Newcastle, J. Oldham.

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2 Unknown, T. Penkathman.
3 Seedling, J. Barratt.

Yellow Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Oldham.
2 Seedling, J. Barratt.

White Selfs.

1 White Flag, J. Barratt.
2 Seedling, J. Oldham.

MIDDLETON ANNUAL TULIP SHOW.

At the house of John Smithies, the Woodman Inn, June 6.

The subscribers agreed to show pans of two blooms (a feather and a flame), for six kettles, the gift of the landlord.—1. Magnum Bonum, Polyphemus, B. Hilton. 2. Charles X., Albion, Jas. Heap. 3. Charles X., Unique, J. Morton. 4. Baguet, Charles X., W. Taylor. 5. Magnum Bonum, Vesta, John Heap. 6. Heroine, Polyphemus, J. Ashton.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., John Heap.
2 Duc de Savoy, W. Taylor.
3 Crown Prince, ditto.
4 Magnum Bonum, John Heap.
5 Surpass Catafalque, L. Ashmole.
6 Firebrand, J. Morton.
7 Rufus, J. Lunn.
8 Seedling, James Heap.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Albion, John Heap.
2 Charles X., J. Lunn.
3 Polyphemus, John Heap.
4 Surpass Catafalque, B. Hilton.
5 Lustre de Bute, J. Morton.
6 Black Prince, W. Taylor.
7 Wellington, John Heap.
8 Surpass Lacantique, James Heap.

Feathered Byblaemens.

1 Bienfait, J. Morton.
2 Buckley's Beauty, J. Smithies.
3 Baguet, J. Lunn.
4 Washington, James Heap.
5 La Belle Narene, J. Lunn.
6 Mango, J. Ashworth.
7 Catharina, ditto.
8 Toot, W. Bentley.

Flamed Byblaemens.

1 Grand Cid, J. Heap.
2 Grotius, J. Ashworth.
3 Baguet, James Heap.
4 Bienfait, ditto.
5 Violet Wafers, ditto.
6 La Belle Narene, J. Smithies.
7 Prince Ely, W. Bentley.
8 Alexander Magnus, L. Ashmole.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, L. Ashmole.
2 Unknown, J. Ashton.
3 Heroine, J. Morton.
4 Seedling, B. Hilton.
5 Duc de Bronte, ditto.
6 Dolittle, John Heap.
7 Comte de Vergennes, J. Ashworth.
8 Hero of the Nile, J. Morton.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Ashworth.
2 Triomphe Royale, J. Morton.
3 Vesta, W. Taylor.
4 La Vandikken, J. Morton.
5 Aglaia, J. Heap.
6 Lord Hill, J. Lunn.
7 Amelia, ditto.
8 Catherine, W. Bentley.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, L. Ashmole.
2 Unknown, W. Taylor.
3 Seedling, L. Ashmole.

Byblaemen Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Ashworth.
2 Seedling, L. Ashmole.
3 Unknown, J. Ashton.

Rose Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Morton.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Unknown, James Heap.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Jonas Collins, Red Lion Inn, Wyke, June 8.

Premier.—Spencer's Grand Duke, J. Fletcher.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Crown Prince, J. Farrar.
2 Goud Beurs, J. Hincliffe.
3 Charles X., J. Farrar.
4 Firebrand, J. Hincliffe.
5 Sovereign, J. Fletcher.
6 Trafalgar, J. Hincliffe.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Catafalque, J. Hincliffe.
2 Polyphemus, ditto.
3 Bolivar, J. Fletcher.
4 Abercrombie, ditto.
5 Rufus, J. Hincliffe.
6 Goud Beurs, J. Farrar.

Feathered Byblaemens.

1 Unknown, J. Farrar.
2 Bienfait, J. Hincliffe.
3 Maitre Partout, J. Fletcher.
4 La Belle Narene, J. Hincliffe.
5 Seedling, ditto
6 Lord Lee, ditto.

Flamed Byblaemens.

1 Diana Bruin, J. Fletcher.
2 Demaroc, J. Farrar.
3 St. Bertrand, J. Fletcher.
4 Roi de Siam, J. Hincliffe.
5 Fs. Primus, J. Chew.
6 Baguet, ditto.

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Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Middleton, J. Fletcher.
2 Duc de Broute, J. Hincliffe.
3 Tinker's Rose, J. Fletcher.
4 Victoria, ditto.
5 Unknown, J. Farrar.
6 Walworth, J. Fletcher.

Flamed Roses.
1 Triomphe Royale, J. Fletcher.
2 Rose Ruby, J. Chew.
3 Lord Hill, J. Hincliffe.
4 Rose Unique, ditto.
5 Victoria, J. Chew.
6 Roi de Cerise, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Hincliffe.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Seedling, J. Hincliffe.
4 Ditto ditto.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Hincliffe.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Ditto ditto.
4 Voerhelm's, ditto.

Rose Breeders.
1 Chellaston, J. Chew.
2 Lady Crewe, J. Farrar.
3 Glaphra, J. Chew.
4 Unknown, J. Farrar.

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, J. Farrar.
2 Cotherstone, J. Hincliffe.
3 Flag, J. Chew.
4 Mountain of Snow, ditto.

Judges.—Messrs. J. Wilkinson, W. Brook, and R. Birkley.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mrs. Jane Booth, Nottingham Castle, Denton, June 8.

Premier Prize.—Pass Catafalque, Polyphemus, J. Sidley.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Magnum Bonum, J. Sidley.
2 Pass Catafalque, T. Green.
3 Suwarrow, J. Thornely.
4 Charles X., J. Sidley.
5 Polyphemus, J. Naylor.
6 Old Dutch, Dr. Massey.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, Dr. Massey.
2 Albion, J. Sidley.
3 Charles X., W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Lustre, T. Leech.
5 Catafalque, W. Peacock, Esq.
6 Lacantique, J. Sidley.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Criterion, T. Thornely.
2 Baguet, J. Naylor.
3 Washington, ditto.
4 Maid of Orleans, T. Peacock.
5 Bienfait, J. Naylor.
6 La Belle Narene, J. Sidley.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Magnus, T. Green.
2 Maid of Orleans, J. Naylor.
3 Roi de Siam, J. Sidley.
4 Grotius, S. Ardern.
5 Buckley's Flora, J. Naylor.
6 Violet Walters, S. Leech.

Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, T. Green.
2 Arletta, J. Sidley.
3 Joan of Arc, J. Naylor.
4 Heroine, T. Thornely.
5 Walworth, J. Sidley.
6 Hero of the Nile, T. Leech.

Flamed Roses.
1 Betty John, T. Leech.
2 Vesta, J. Naylor.
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
4 Lady Stanley, ditto.
5 Aglaia, ditto.
6 Rose Quarto, W. Peacock, Esq.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Pass Catafalque, J. Sidley.
2 Cato, ditto.
3 Pilot, J. Naylor.
4 Duke of Hamilton, ditto.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Maid of Orleans, J. Naylor.
2 Lord Durham, ditto.
3 Criterion, ditto.
4 Countess Harrington, ditto.

Rose Breeders.
1 Lord Derby, T. Green.
2 Seedling, J. Naylor.
3 Arletta, T. Green.
4 Alice, J. Naylor.

Selfs.
Min d'Or, J. Sidley.
Perfection, ditto.

After the flowers were judged, it was discovered that a member had staged flowers not his own growth and property; although his name was attached to them, he received no prizes, but was expelled the society.

BRADFORD TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Thomas Barber, Manor House Inn.

Premium.—Magnum Bonum, J. Sutcliffe.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., J. Tomlin.
2 Kearsley's Prince of Wales, J. Fletcher.
3 Spencer's Grand Duke, J. Fletcher.
4 Goud Beurs, J Sutcliffe.
5 Catafalque, ditto.
6 Waterloo, A. Whitehead.

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7 Crown Prince, J. Fletcher.
8 Trafalgar, J. Sutcliffe.

Flamed Bizarres

1 Abercrombie, J. Fletcher.
2 Charbonnier, ditto.
3 Catafalque, ditto.
4 Sir Sidney Smith, J. Sutcliff.
5 Don Carlos, ditto.
6 Wolstenholm's Bizarre, ditto.
7 Cato, ditto.
8 Darius, J. Fletcher.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Washington, J. Sutcliffe.
2 Tout, ditto.
3 Bienfait, ditto.
4 Ambassador de Holland, J. Fletcher.
5 Incomparable, J. Sutcliffe.
6 Seedling, J. Smith.
7 Clotilda, ditto.
8 Seedling, J. Sutcliffe.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Voerhelm's, J. Normington
2 Bienfait, J. Sutcliffe.
3 Washington, J. Fletcher.
4 Franciscus Primus, ditto.
5 Imperatrice de Maroc, ditto.
6 Roi de Siam, ditto.
7 Seedling, ditto.
8 Diana Bruin, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, J Fletcher.
2 Triomphe Royale, J. Fletcher.
3 Heroine, J. Smith.
4 Lady Crewe, J Fletcher.
5 Ely's 26, J. Sutcliffe.
6 Dolittle, A. Whitehead.
7 Walworth, J. Fletcher.
8 Unknown, J. Sutcliffe.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, J. Fletcher.
2 Aglaia, J. Smith.
3 Vesta, J. Normington.
4 Lord Hill, J. Smith.
5 Fair Ellen, J. Sutcliffe.
6 Unique, ditto.
7 Brilliant, J. Fletcher.
8 Victoria, ditto.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, J. Sutcliffe.
2 Seedling, J. Fletcher.
3 Unknown, J. Sutcliffe.
4 Seedling, ditto.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Crewe, M. Tattersall.
2 Glaphra, J. Fletcher.
3 Chellaston, ditto.
4 Newcastle, ditto.

Self's.

1 Min d'Or, J. Normington.
2 Cotherstone, J. Fletcher.
3 White Flag, J. Sutcliffe.
4 Ely's Sovereign, A. Whitehead.

STOCKPORT OLD ORIGINAL TULIP MEETING,

At the house of Mr. Samuel Williamson, the Grapes Inn, Church-gate.

Premier Prize.—Bienfait, D. Woolley.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., B. Shottin.
2 Surpass Catafalque, C. Robinson.
3 Goud Beurs, H. Booth.
4 Magnum Bonum, H. Brown.
5 Waterloo, B. Shottin.
6 Saucy Gambus, H. Brown.
7 Dutch Cat, ditto.
8 San Joe, T. Green.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Flame le Guard, C. Potter.
2 San Joe, C. Potter.
3 Lustre, H. Brown.
4 Waterloo, C. Potter.
5 Charles X., H. Brown.
6 Lacantique, J. Evans.
7 Unknown, D. Woolley.
8 Teot, W. Lambert.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, C. Robinson.
2 Baguet, C. Potter.
3 Violet Winner, H. Brown.
4 Leewold, C. Potter.
5 Unknown, E. Carter.
6 Ambassador, C. Potter.
7 Heworth and Bradshaw Seedling, C. Robinson.
8 Duc de Bordeaux, E. Carter.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Sable Rex, T. Green.
2 Bienfait, C. Robinson.

Maiden Prize.—Bienfait, D. Woolley.

3 Violet Winner, B. Shottin.
4 Buckley's Flora, T. Green.
5 Unknown, E Carter.
6 Unknown, B. Shottin.
7 Buckley's 71, T. Green.
8 Zerin, C. Robinson.

Feathered Roses.

1 Count, C. Potter.
2 Lady Crewe, H. Brown.
3 Unknown, H. Booth
4 Newcastle, C. Robinson.
5 Duc de Bronte, B. Shottin.
6 Unknown, C. Robinson.
7 Triomphe Royale, H. Brown.
8 Thelestris, B. Shottin.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, B. Shottin.
2 Rose Vesta, W. Lambert.
3 Brilliant, E Carter.
4 Triomphe Royale, T. Green.
5 Lord Hill, C. Potter.
6 Aglaia, ditto.
7 Rose Guerrier, W. Lambert.
8 Newcastle, C. Potter.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, D Woolley.
2 Magnum Bonum, T. Green.
3 Unknown, D. Woolley.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Unknown, B. Shottin.
2 Buckley's 71, T. Green.

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3 Gibbons's, B. Shottin.

Rose Breeders.

1 Newcastle, B. Shottin.
2 Lady Lifford, C. Robinson.
3 Lady Crewe, C. Robinson.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, H. Brown.
2 White Flag, C. Potter.

TULIP SHOW.

Premier Prize.—Charles X., J. Hart.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Pass Perfecta, T. Green.
2 Rising Sun, I. Sidebotham.
3 Duc de Savoy, T. Green.
4 Charles X., D. Woolley.
5 Trafalgar, I. Sidebotham.
6 Magnum Bonum, G. Greaves.
7 Waterloo, ditto.
8 Crown Prince, I. Sidebotham.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Flame de Guard, W. Hill.
2 Lustre, G. Greaves.
3 Polyphemus, ditto.
4 Albion, T. Green.
5 Beauty Parfaite ditto.
6 Surpass Catafalque, W. Hill.
7 Don Carlos, G. Greaves.
8 Charles X., W. Hill.

Feathered Byblœmens

1 Buckley's Beauty, G. Greaves.
2 Bienfait, I. Sidebotham.
3 Baguet, W. Hill.
4 Toot, T. Green.
5 Leewold, I. Sidebotham.
6 Roi de Siam, J. Hart.
7 Violet Winner, I. Sidebotham.
8 Lancashire Hero, T. Green.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 La Belle Narene, T. Green.
2 Cicero, J. Hart.
3 Bienfait, ditto.
4 Princess Charlotte, ditto.
5 Czarinne, G. Greaves.
6 Baguet, T. Green.
7 Incomparable, ditto.

Maiden Prize.—Charles X., D. Woolley.

8 Roi de Siam, T. Green.

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte, W. Hill.
2 Doiittle, T. Green.
3 Lady Crewe, W. Hill.
4 Heroine, ditto.
5 Lady Stanley, T. Green.
6 Walworth, J. Hart.
7 Matilda, T. Green.
8 Neat and Clean, T. Robinson.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, W. Hill.
2 Vesta, G. Greaves.
3 Aglaia, J. Hart.
4 Triomphe Royale, D. Woolley.
5 Roi de Cerise, T. Green.
6 Luna, W. Hall.
7 Matilda, D. Woolley.
8 Fair Helen, T. Green.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Hamilton, T. Green.
2 Sunbeam, D. Woolley.
3 Dutch Cat, J. Hart.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Grand Sultan, T. Green.
2 Countess of Harrington, ditto.
3 Criterion, ditto.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Jane Grey, T. Green.
2 Anastasia, W. Hill.
3 Gibbons's Seedling, T. Green.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, W. Hill.
2 Mountain of Snow, T. Green.

NORTHAMPTON FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

At the New Hall, Newland, June 27.

ROSES.

Twelve Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Boule de Nanteul, Prince Albert, Lamarque, Faulkner's Delicatissima, Comtesse Duchatel, Duchess of Sutherland, Provence Moss, (Cabbage) Provence, Madame Laffay, La Ville de Bruxelles, Bourbon Queen, Mr. Watts. 2. Louis Napoleon, Duchess of Sutherland, Chenodole, Devoniensis, Baronne Prevost, Boule de Nanteul, Hybrid Stadtholder, Augustin Monchelet, Charles Duval, Globe White Hip, William Jesse, Madame Laffay, Mr. Archer.

Best Six.—Duchess of Sutherland, Charles Duval, Boule de Nanteul, Brennus, Mrs. Elliott, Mr. W. Hills.

PINKS.

Best Twelve.—XX, Reid's Pontiff, Coronation, Guido, Conqueror, Willmer's Queen, Professor, Matchless, Prince Albert, Jenny Lind, Hodges's Gem, President, Mr. Archer.

Best Six.—Kerr's Harriet, XX, three seedlings, Jenny Lind, Mr. Martin.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

GREAT

TRIAL EXHIBITION OF CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES,

HELD AT DERBY, AUGUST 7.

THERE was only one drawback to our perfect enjoyment, at the second exhibition of northern and southern-raised carnations and picotees, and that was *illness*. Editors and judges at exhibitions of this kind, we fancy, ought not to be unwell, or at least ought not to let it be perceived; but we confess we could not help it; and as we could not eat, and talked less than usual, it gave us more time for observation, so that our readers may perhaps benefit even by this *contretemps*.

That we were not prepared to see so many flowers, or so many florists, we candidly confess, and were much gratified with the beauty of the one, and the unanimity and good feeling displayed by the others; and we need hardly say, that on no previous occasion were so many of either assembled together in the good town of Derby. As we went some length in our description of the flowers exhibited at Slough, so also shall we endeavour to describe what we examined at Derby; and as the flowers passed in very strict review before Mr. Neville and ourselves, we hope, backed by the opinion of that veteran and good florist, we shall not be far wrong.

The first pan of southern-raised carnations was gained by Mr. C. Turner, of Slough, and though the flowers were rather old, still they were shown in first-rate style. One of the most striking was Puxley's Jenny Lind (crimson bizarre), noticed in

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our Record of last month, and when we say we believe it to be a beat on Ely's Lord Milton, our readers will know how to appreciate it. May's Ariel (rose flake) and Flora's Garland (ditto) were also beautiful. Mr. Haines, of Tipton, stood second, and in his stand we noticed three rose flakes, all good—Garland, Apollo, and Ariel. Mr. Dodwell was third. Here was a good bloom of Hardwick's Firebrand (scarlet flake), the white ground of which is very excellent; Lord Rancliffe (Holliday), a splendid bloom of a very fine scarlet bizarre; with May's Ariel (R.F.) in fine character. The fourth was J. Edwards, Esq. of Holloway. Amongst the six, Lord Rancliffe (S.B.) and Ariel (R.F.) were pre-eminent. The latter has not been out long, but its being shown in all the five pans will be sufficient evidence of its fine quality. Mr. Bragg, of Slough, was fifth. Here also was Ariel (R.F.). Ward's Sarah Payne (P.P.B.) very pretty, though the class is not much patronized in the northern counties. It will be thus seen that the first, fourth, and fifth were gained by south country growers, whilst the north got second and third.

In southern picotees, Mr. C. Turner, as usual, was first. The blooms of Mrs. Barnard and Green's Queen (rose picotees) were superb; in fact, all the six flowers of his stand, which will be noticed at the close of this article, were excellent. Mr. Merryweather, of York, sustained his reputation by coming second, with a very excellent stand. Here were three rose picotees, very fine—Green's Queen, Mrs. Barnard, and Princess Royal: the latter was perfect. Mr. E. S. Dodwell had in the third stand, Youell's Gem (L.R.P.) and Headley's Venus (heavy rose), in very beautiful style. Mr. Bragg was fourth. Lady Harriet Moore (L.P.P.) and Jenny Lind (light red picotee) we liked best. Mr. Bailey was fifth. Wildman's Isabella, a sweet pretty purplish red-edge, and Wood's Princess Alice, a beautiful heavy-edged purple, were conspicuous. We may here mention

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that the latter flower was raised by Mr. Wood, a celebrated florist, of Huntingdon, and not by us, as some have supposed.

In northern-raised flowers Mr. Dodwell took the post of honour. In his stand was a splendid bloom of that really fine S.B. Admiral Curzon. Premier, also a Derby flower, a purple flake, was very fine. Mr. Haines was second. Lady Healey (R.F.) was in her best dress; Black Diamond, a first-rate seedling crimson bizarre; Squire Meynell (purple flake), than which few better exist; and Burn's Lord Lewisham, a rich scarlet bizarre, were most conspicuous. Mr. C. Turner was third. Lord Byron, a Nottingham purple flake, was very good in this stand; and Lord Lewisham and Curzon were well done. Mr. Buswell was fourth. Lord Milton (C.B.) was excellent; so was Ely's King of Scarlets (S.F.) Bellerophon, with its inferior white, was a losing point in this stand, or it would have had a higher place. The fifth place was awarded to Mr. Bailey, a young but promising cultivator. He had a beautiful Lord Milton (C.B.), Admiral Curzon (S.B.), and Squire Meynell.

Northern picotees were in great force. Mr. C. Turner first again. Marris's Victoria Regina (heavy-edged rose) and Countess Howe (light-edged rose) were new and beautiful. Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland and Dodwell's Alfred (heavy purple) were superb. The latter flower, though not yet generally out, has taken more prizes this season than any other heavy purple picotee. Mr. Dodwell came a good second. In this stand were several enumerated in the preceding ones, with that really splendid sort Marris's Prince of Wales (heavy-edged red) and Merryweather's Rosa, a sweet rose-edged variety. Mr. Bailey was third, and in this stand were several unnamed seedlings of Mr. Dodwell's, of promising character. The fourth place was assigned to Mr. Haines, who had several of the before-named varieties, with a promising seedling of Hudson's, and a heavy rose,

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raised by Mr. Gatliff, of Leeds, a hardy useful flower, rather coarse sometimes, but especially remarkable for its powerful fragrance. Mr. Merryweather was fifth, his stand containing five out of six his own seedlings.

In the classes the single blooms were shown *off cards*. In the scarlet bizarres three out of four were Admiral Curzon, a flower Derby may well be proud of. In crimson bizarres, the three first, out of four, were gained by Puxley's Jenny Lind; the fourth, Haines's Black Diamond, was much to our taste. Pink bizarres were very middling, and only one prize was awarded, to Mr. Bragg, for Prince Albert. In purple flakes the whole class was gained by northern flowers; whilst in scarlets, Mr. Barringer's Duke of Devonshire, a very superior flower, monopolized the whole. We always like to see Lady Ely (rose flake). Though old, her age detracts not from her beauty; she worthily stood first and second. In heavy-edged red picotees the flowers were scarce. Picnic, a seedling coming out in October, gained the first place. The flower is rather thin, but the lace is laid on evenly. It will be more admired in the northern counties than in the south. The light reds were not in very good character. Though Gem stood third, it was the worst bloom we had seen during the season. When right, it is a clipper, and should be grown everywhere. Dodwell's Alfred took the whole of the heavy purples. In the lights, Mr. Barringer's Leader was very neat and pretty, taking first and second, and beating May's Juliet. Mr. Turner has had some splendid blooms of Green's Victoria (heavy rose) this season. Here it was first-rate; and in the light-edged class, Mrs. Barnard, in beautiful character, was placed first, second, and third.

In the closing act of the competition, the southern carnations beat the northern-raised varieties, whilst picotees of this part of the country were victorious. The flowers to which first-class certificates were awarded were Puxley's Jenny Lind (C.B.), Barringer's

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Duke of Devonshire (scarlet flake), both previously noticed, and Robinson's Elizabeth, a heavy-edged red picotee, of large size, lacing excellent and bright, and the white extra fine. In the specimen staged a slight serrature of the edge was perceptible, but we understand from Mr. Robinson that this is not generally the case.

Amongst other noticeable flowers was Slater's Gladiator, shown in very good style, a high-coloured crimson bizarre, which will doubtless prove a useful flower in the class.

With regard to the other part of the exhibition, we confess we had not much time to examine it. We were pleased, however, with Mr. Chater's Hollyhocks, amongst which, Walden Gem, and Charles Barron were pre-eminent. There was also an excellent display of carnations and picotees, exhibited at the same time, belonging to the members of the Derby society, the record of which will be found with the other exhibitions. We wish we had space to particularize; but we have not, and therefore our readers must take the "will for the deed." The plants and fruits were also excellent. The large number of one hundred and twenty-two florists and amateurs sat down to dinner, J. Edwards, Esq. of Wace Cottage, Holloway, in the chair. At this gathering, there were cultivators from twelve or thirteen counties, far exceeding the anticipations of the most sanguine. Some little business was done, thirty pounds being subscribed towards the national tulip show, to be held in Derby next year (1851), and we trust that the exhibition of this, our favourite flower, will be equally successful with the show we have just attempted to describe. That there should be a local committee formed in every town and village of the country we would most strongly urge, and these again should put themselves in communication with Mr. Dodwell, recollecting that "union is strength," and that in the course of years, the exhibition may be held in their own neighbourhood, when

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they will want the co-operation of their brother florists. A kindly and happy feeling was exhibited on the 7th, which we trust will ripen and increase, so that those miserable jealousies which have so long acted as a drag on the chariot wheels of Flora, may be for ever extinguished. That these meetings, carried out in a proper spirit, will tend to the realization of this desirable consummation, we would fain believe; and glad shall we be to see them increase each year in attraction and utility.

CARNATIONS.

NORTHERN-RAISED.

1. Princess, Admiral Curzon, Seedling 31, Seedling 47, Seedling 32, Premier, Mr. E. S. Dodwell. 2. Black Diamond (Haines), Hamlet, Lady Ely, Squire Meynell, William IV. (Wilson), Lord Lewisham, Mr. J. Haines. 3. Miss Rushin, Lord Lewisham, Seedling (Hollyoake), Admiral Curzon, Seedling (Marris), Lord Byron, Mr. C. Turner. 4. Lord Byron, Admiral Curzon, Ocean Queen, King of Scarlets, Bellerophon, Lord Milton, Mr. Buswell. 5. Seedling (Dodwell), Lord Milton, True Briton, Admiral Curzon, Squire Meynell, Seedling (Dodwell), Mr. John Bailey.

SOUTHERN-RAISED.

1. Flora's Garland, Emperor (Puxley), Poins (May), Jenny Lind (Puxley), Tybalt (May), Ariel (May), Mr. C. Turner. 2. May's Hotspur, Flora's Garland, Apollo, Ariel, Excellent, Venus (Willmer), Mr. J. Haines. 3. Firebrand, President, Apollo, Lord Rancliffe, Ariel, Prince Albert, Mr. E. S. Dodwell. 4. Queen, Mary Ann, Ariel, Lord Rancliffe, Hero of Middlesex, Flora's Garland, Mr. J. Edwards. 5. Ariel, Flora's Garland, Prince Albert, Sarah Payne, Prince de Nassau, Princess Royal, Mr. Bragg.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Admiral Curzon, Mr. Buswell.
2 Ditto, Mr. Haines.
3 Ditto, Messrs. Schofield.
4 Seedling.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Jenny Lind, Mr. C. Turner.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Black Diamond, Mr. Haines.

Pink Bizarres.

1 Prince Albert, Mr. Bragg.

[The paucity of blooms in this class prevented any further award.]

Purple Flakes.

1 Squire Meynell, Mr. Buswell.
2 Lord Byron, ditto.
3 Premier, Mr. Barringer.
4 Squire Meynell, Mr. Haines.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Barringer.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Ditto, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

1 Lady Ely, Mr. Haines.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Princess Royal, Mr. C. Turner.
4 Flora's Garland, Mr. Haines.

PICOTEES.

NORTHERN-RAISED.

1. Victoria Regina (Marris), Alfred (Dodwell), Countess Howe (Marris), Duke of Rutland (Hollyoake), Grace Darling (Marris), Alice (Dodwell), Mr. C. Turner. 2. Alfred (Dodwell), Princess Royal (Marris), Prince of Wales (Marris), Fanny (Dodwell), Miss Rosa (Merryweather), Duke of Rutland (Hollyoake), Mr. E. S. Dodwell. 3. Seedling (Dodwell), Iphigenia (Marris), Seedling (Dodwell), Seedling (Dodwell), Mr. J. Bayley. 4 Prince of Wales, Prince Albert (Marris), Miss Rosa, Seedling (Hudson), Seedling (Haines), Proconsul, Mr. J. Haines. 5. Miss Rosa, Mrs. Wood (Merryweather), Lady Franklin (Merryweather), Eliza (Merryweather), Lady Sale (Ely), Seedling 35, Mr. Merryweather.

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SOUTHERN-RAISED.

1. Mrs. Barnard, Juliet (May), Cleopatra (May), Green's Queen, Viola (May), Lorina (Burroughes), Mr. C. Turner. 2. President, Delicata (Holliday), Jessica (May), Princess Royal (Willmer), Mrs. Barnard, Green's Queen, Mr. Merryweather. 3. Green's Queen, Juliet, Mrs. Barnard, Lorina, Venus (Headley), Gem (Youell), E. S. Dodwell. 4. Gem, Lady Harriet Moore, Princess Royal, Juliet, Venus, Jenny Lind, Mr. Bragg. 5. Isabella, Mrs. Barnard, Juliet, Lorina, Venus, Princess Alice (Wood).

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Picnic, Mr. T. Harrison.
2 Isabella, Mr. Haines.
3 Picnic, Mr. T. Harrison.
4 King James, Messrs. Schofield.

Light-edged Red.

1 Seedling 70, Mr. E. S. Dodwell.
2 Paymaster, Mr. T. Harrison.
3 Gem, Mr. Buswell.
4 Ditto, Mr. Barringer.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Alfred, Mr. E. S. Dodwell.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Leader, Mr. Barringer.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Juliet, Mr. C. Turner.
4 Ditto, Mr. E. S. Dodwell.

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Green's Queen, Mr. C. Turner.
2 Ditto, Mr. Dodwell.
3 Venus, Mr. Turner.
4 Victoria Regina, ditto.

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Dodwell.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.

The premier prizes were awarded to Mr. C. Turner, for his stand of southern carnations, six magnificent specimens; and his stand of northern picotees, also displaying the highest skill in cultivation, combined with the very rarest quality.

PRACTICAL HINTS ON THE CULTURE OF THE ROSE.

BY MR. T. ALLESTREE.

THE rose has been grown from time immemorial, and is now found in every garden, from the cottage to the palace. At this we need not wonder, for whatever may be the taste in plants, the rose is universally admired. It is evident, however, that it does not obtain that share of attention in its cultivation that its merits deserve; for roses, as commonly seen, are far from displaying that exquisite beauty which they are capable of.

Into so extensive a subject it will be impossible here to enter minutely: those leading principles on which success mainly depends, and which must be adopted with but little variation in every description of situation and soil, can only be adverted to. The soil intended for roses demands particular attention. It is necessary, however, to observe, that no plant is more accommodating in this respect, for wherever trees or vegetables will grow, roses may be cultivated. Still it is advisable to bestow a little trouble on its

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preparation, for roses are generally intended to remain where first planted. It is of the utmost importance to dig deeply—two feet at least, if the subsoil will admit of it—and intermix a good dressing of rotten manure. In old garden soil, it will much improve it to add at the same time some half rotten turf—of a sandy nature to stiff soils, and strong to light ones. This will be all that is generally necessary. Circumstances may occur, however, when other substances may be applied with the best results. Soil deficient in calcareous matter should have lime applied, at the rate of two cwt. to every hundred square yards. Night soil, mixed with turf, and kept for some time, is excellent, either as a top-dressing or when dug in. In strong soils, burnt earth, by rendering the land more porous, as well as being of an enriching nature, is of the greatest value; indeed it is just suited for roses, irrespective of the nature of the soil.

Roses may be planted from October to April, but November is as good a time as any. If the trees are not planted when received, lay them in carefully by the roots; but the sooner they are attended to the better; and whether budded or on their own roots, should be healthy and vigorous. The former grow so well on the common brier, in my rose nursery, that no other stock has been used; and of the latter I prefer plants that have been propagated without artificial heat. The roots should be tipped, long ones shortened, and young suckers and suckerlike roots removed from the worked plants. Lay the roots straight out all round, and cover not more than three or four inches with soil. Let the plants be staked, to prevent the wind disturbing the roots; and those of vigorous growth may also have the branches shortened one-half, or one-third, to lessen its action on them. Standards on lawns should have round them, free from turf, a circle, two or three feet in diameter, which may be sown with low-growing annuals in the summer. The whole should be

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mulched with rotten manure, and well watered two or three times after they have commenced their growth, especially should the summer prove dry. I need scarcely add, that from the worked plants all suckers and side-shoots should be removed as soon as they make their appearance.

On the proper application of pruning will depend the shape of the trees, and partly the quantity and quality of the flowers. March will be the best time for those newly planted; the others may be pruned any time during the winter, when the weather is open. I endeavour to shape the heads of the standards and dwarfs to half a hollow ball, and the pillar roses in pyramids. As a general rule, the shoots should be shortened in proportion to their length; for instance, shoots a foot in length may be cut to two or three buds; two feet, to four or six, and so on, leaving them longer as they increase in length. The pillar roses may be cut down nearly to the ground, after the first season; they will then throw up strong shoots, of which about three may be selected and tied to a stake. The year after, they will put out side-branches, which must be cut in every season, leaving the longest at the bottom; and if well managed, the tree, when in flower, will be a complete pyramid of roses. The climbers should not have the branches shortened at all, but the superfluous ones cut out. With perpetuals on their own roots, so much care is not always necessary in shaping the heads, as they may be occasionally cut down nearly, or quite to the ground with advantage. Severe pruning, with transplanting, is also an excellent plan to renovate old trees.

It will be necessary now to describe the plan by which the summer roses may have their season of flowering prolonged, and the perpetuals be had in constant succession. If some of the summer varieties be pruned in October, and others in April, the first will be in flower a week or two before, and the latter a week or two after those pruned at the usual

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time. To have perpetuals early in flower, the plants may be pruned in September. They will then make short shoots before their growth is stopped by the frost; these will be in flower, perhaps, in early seasons, the latter end of May. Prune again in April, to succeed the winter-pruned; and in May, about half the young shoots, with the buds, may be cut off, when they will be in perfection in August; and lastly, after the plants have flowered in July, cut down to two buds, when they will again flower in the autumn; and if any are in pots, by placing them under a frame, giving plenty of air, and protecting them from rain and frost, roses may be had at Christmas. The above directions are most applicable to the roses termed hybrid perpetuals; but these, and especially the Bourbon and Chinese, will give a succession of flowers, if only pruned once in the winter. The tea-scented being rather tender, the foregoing treatment is scarcely applicable to them. Although I have had many standing out the last three winters, with the protection of only a little litter round the roots, true, the branches are often nearly all killed to the ground; but they have put up fresh stems, and flowered beautifully. A few budded plants were entirely uninjured last winter, and I have worked all the best varieties on the common brier, to test their hardiness. The only eligible way of growing them in most situations, is either in large pots, with the greenhouse or cold frame for protection in the winter, or planted in prepared beds, with a temporary frame over them, for the same purpose. Potting plants from the open ground, in autumn, placing them under the frame, and planting out in April, has not answered with me, and I intend to give up the practice.

By adopting the above system of culture, the plants may be expected to grow with vigour, and probably will scarcely be attacked by greenfly. Should they, however, make their appearance, a decoction of quassia chips will perhaps be the best

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application. The rose grub must be picked off by the hand. At the time of flowering, some little attention will be necessary to set off the trees to the best advantage. Any buds coming with green centres may be nipped out. All roses should be removed before the petals fall, to preserve the neatness of the garden, and to give the young buds room to expand. The barren shoots above the flowers may also be cut off.

After all, it is with the rose as with other plants; success, to a certain extent, will always depend on the judgment and tact of the cultivator.

Draycott, Sept. 6, 1850.

NEW TULIPS.

AGREEABLE to promise, I now send you the notes of the new flowers I saw in the possession of that skilful and enthusiastic florist, the celebrated Richard Headley, Esq. of Stapleford. This gentleman deserves great praise for his indomitable perseverance in his favourite pursuit of raising tulips. During the last fifteen years, some secret enemy has destroyed tulips that cost him an outlay of three thousand pounds. When I saw his beds, in May last, there were some of them nearly all killed; and one bed was so completely destroyed, that there was not the vestige of a bulb left. It is sincerely to be hoped, from the steps he has now adopted, that the mischief will be arrested; and that in a few years he will be reimbursed, from the proceeds of the very exquisite and astonishing flowers which he has broken. The breeders of this gentleman surpass everything that I ever saw, for shape, substance, and purity. I should have liked much to have possessed a few of them, but Mr. H. is quite determined to part with none of his breeders; and his broken flowers will not be parted with till he has sufficient stock. In taking

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these notes, I was assisted by that exquisite judge and good grower, Mr. James Twitchett, the raiser of the celebrated Don John.

GEORGE LIGHTBODY.

Falkirk, August 30, 1850.

Titian.—Third-row bizarre. Bright lemon yellow, form excellent, bottom and stamens pure, intense grand flame of crimson, richly interspersed with gouts of a darker colour. One of the most strikingly grand flowers ever seen. Broke 1850.

Sol.—Second-row bizarre. Large size and perfect form, very stout petals, feather and flame of the most vivid scarlet. A most attractive and splendid flower. Bottom and stamens pure. Broke 1850.

Hero of Stapleford.—Second-row bizarre. Splendid lemon yellow, of the finest form, good substance of petal, exquisitely pure in the interior, broad and regular feather of dark crimson. One of the finest heavy feathered bizarres in existence. Broke 1849.

Jason.—Second-row bizarre. Pure lemon yellow, perfect and large cup, bottom and stamens pure, with a light feather and beam of very dark brown, interspersed in the beam with black stripes. A truly beautiful flower. Broke 1849.

St. George.—Second-row bizarre. Deep orange yellow, stamens and bottom pure, excellent form, substantial petals, feathered with very dark and rich crimson. A most remarkable and certain show flower. Broke 1840.

Ajax.—A very tall fourth-row bizarre. Fine shape, quite pure, strong petals, feathered and flamed with dark brown, nearly black. A majestic and fine show flower. Broke 1846.

Agamemnon.—Third-row bizarre. Beautiful short cup, very stout petal, bright yellow ground colour, splendid and grand flame of crimson and black, with deep crimson feather. A first-class show flower. Broke 1849.

Marshal Ney.—Third-row bizarre. Great size and fine form, leather petals, bottom and stamens pure, flame of a dark reddish brown, with narrow black feather. The flame of this flower is very broad, and has a very grand appearance. A remarkable flower for quality. Broke 1849.

Phœnix.—A fourth-row bizarre. Very dark lemon yellow, perfectly transparent, strong leather petals, form perfection itself, feather and flame very accurate, of the most brilliant crimson. Without exception, one of the best bizarres yet raised. Broke 1850.

Orion.—Third-row bizarre. Intense orange yellow, great substance of petal, form perfect, large cup, quite pure, feather and flame of a dark brown. A most gorgeous flower. Broke 1850.

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Apollo.—Second-row bizarre. Beautiful short cup, bottom and stamens pure, stout leather petals, grand flame of reddish brown, with narrow black feather. A striking first-class flower. Broke 1849.

MR. CHATER'S HOLLYHOCKS,

AT SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.

A VISIT to the nursery grounds of Mr. Chater, at this season of the year, in consequence of the peculiar department in which he has shown his skill as a florist, is positively a treat; and great numbers of gentry, amateurs, and professional gardeners (not a few from distant parts of the kingdom) have already responded to his invitation, so widely given by advertisement, and have inspected his truly magnificent flowers. His splendid stock of ten thousand hollyhocks, of almost every delightful shade and hue, and the great majority of which are now in their blaze of beauty, bloom, and perfection, contains some seedlings entirely new, and others which are manifestly grand improvements on former named plants. His beautiful deep crimson Comet, as a standard of the perfection to which these giant productions of Flora may be brought, still stands everywhere unrivalled; its immense disk of individual bloom, its stiff petals formed into a compact hemisphere, on an elegant, narrow, flat, and smooth-edged guard leaf, render its lofty and gorgeous spikes conspicuous and attractive, even where all its compeers around are beauteous and brilliant. Alike distinguished amongst his present extended collection is his Walden Gem, no plant of which he has yet parted with. It is a flower of rare qualities, a rosy ruby red, and its properties greatly similar to Comet. Of the same character also, and bidding fair to be equally valued, is a seedling of last year, Charles Barron, a pale salmon, named in honour of the amateur florist who first brought hollyhocks into superior cultivation as florist

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flowers, at Saffron Walden. In addition to these, and the beauties named in the inspections of last year, ranking as first-class flowers, are Purpurea elegans; Rosea alba; Surprise, a deep crimson; Rosy Queen; Obscura, silver, shaded puce; Sulphurea palmata, an early-blooming flower; Spectabilis, an exceedingly showy specimen; Conspicua; Sulphurea perfecta; also a new seedling, Orion, a deep rose; with a host of other varieties, whose splendour in an autumnal noonday sun, cannot be overdrawn by pen or pencil. Mr. Chater, besides exhibiting at provincial and many other meetings, has, this season, shown some of his most choice favourites at the London Horticultural Society's rooms, Regent-street, where the censors awarded him a Banksian medal. He also exhibited some splendid spikes of blossom at Hainsworth and Lozell's exhibition, Birmingham; and at the Shire Hall, Derby; on all which occasions, his hollyhocks commanded the most distinguished notice and commendation from crowds of admiring members and visiters.

A. BARFIELD.

Dunmow, Essex, August 22, 1850.

Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

ANOTHER new strawberry is advertised. It is called "La Delicieuse." The colour is amber, compared to a Bigarreau cherry; very productive, and of fine flavour. It is, however, very late, thus extending the

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season of this favourite fruit, a point of very great importance. When we get a taste of the fruit, we will tell our readers a little more about it.

FLOWERS.

DELPHINIUM HENDERSONII.—This beautiful larkspur is in the possession of Mr. G. Henderson, of St. John's Wood, and is a seedling from D. cheelanthum. From the drawing we have seen, its flower is like that of D. magnifica, raised by Mr. Goodwin, of Collycroft, near Ashbourn, though perhaps somewhat darker than that variety. D. Hendersonii was raised by M. Chauviere, of Paris, and is a most desirable variety. The description given in the *Magazine of Botany* is as follows:—"Flowers azure blue, veined, the disks of the lower petals with a yellow beard."

LILIUM PUMILUM.—A scarlet martagnon-like lily, very pretty and dwarf; flowers bright scarlet.

LILIUM WALLICHIANUM. *(The Wallich Lily.)*—This pretty sort has flowered during the last summer, for the first time, in Europe, at the Royal Botanic Garden, Glasnevin. The flowers are somewhat like the well-known Lilium longiflorum, though the foliage is narrower.

NEW HARDY TREES.

QUERCUS SCLEROPHYLLA.—A very splendid evergreen oak. It comes from the northern parts of China, from whence many fine plants calculated to bear our climate have been lately introduced. The foliage is very stout and large.

CRYPTOMERIA JAPONICA NANA.—We have been given to understand that the whole stock of this

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singular dwarf variety of the Japanese cypress is in the hands of Messrs. Standish & Noble, of Bagshot. To all who are interested in pretty dwarf evergreens this will be a great acquisition.

ARBUTUS CROOMII.—An improvement on a splendid shrub. It is, in fact, a beat on the scarlet arbutus, and that is saying a great deal.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

FANCY geraniums have of late been much improved; for, as with everything else in the world, if a demand is created, there is sure to be a supply, and as everything is progressing, so do these pretty plants. Mr. Ayres, of Brooklands, has raised several of novel and beautiful character.

Painted Pet is one of these. Crimson, with purple tinge, the upper petals being margined with white; the lower ones spotted with purple. In form it is better than the average.

Enchantress (Ayres).—The upper petals are crimson purple, edged with pale lilac, nearly white; the lower ones rose-coloured, faintly streaked with purple. The form of this flower is good, and it blooms profusely.

Duchess d'Orleans, by that successful raiser of fancies, Mr. Ambrose, is white, with a distinct pink blotch; pretty.

Richard Cobden (Ambrose).—Deep purple, or mulberry, with white centre; a nice variety.

Black Prince (Henderson).—Deep chocolate. Ought to be grown in the most limited collection.

VEGETABLES.

FOSTER'S NEWTON SEEDLING (ROUND POTATO).—This excellent seedling potato was raised by William Foster, Esq., Newton-by-the-Sea, Northumberland. It is a fine round variety, grows to a large size, is very prolific, and considerably *earlier* than Rilott's Flourball, which makes it even more desirable than that favourite variety. It is at present only in the

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possession of the Felton amateurs, among whom it was distributed by the liberal gentleman who raised it, three years ago.—WM. HARRISON, *Felton.*

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

HAINES'S BLACK DIAMOND.—A very fine high-coloured crimson bizarre carnation, a seedling of great promise. It was shown at the Derby trial exhibition, and was greatly admired.

SCHOFIELD'S LADY HARWOOD.—Though there are many very excellent purple picotees, this will be a favourite. The white ground is very good, and the petals are stout, gently cupping. The purple lace is wholly confined to the edge. Both the above are worth the attention of the cultivators of this favourite class of plants.

WILLISON'S NEGRO BOY GOOSEBERRY.—We have this day (Sept. 18) received from Mr. Willison, of Whitby, specimens of the above fruit. Though not large, yet the lateness of its season will make it a valuable acquisition for the dessert. The specimens were perfectly smooth, of fine flavour, and a very dark colour; in fact, as they lay in the box, packed in cotton wool, they looked more like damsons than gooseberries. Of course they will not find much favour with those who cultivate for showing; but for bottling, preserving, &c. we think they will prove acceptable.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE PURPLE-LEAVED OR JERSEY SYCAMORE.—The true Purple-leaved, or, more correctly speaking, the Jersey Sycamore, is one of the handsomest of orna-

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mental trees. We have them in this island, also at Guernsey, noble specimens. Its principal attraction is when the leaves are being waved by the wind, which has a most beautiful effect, arising from the under part of the leaf being of a dark crimson purple, whilst the upper part is the usual green, showing a diversity of colour very pleasing. If you can give publicity to this, perhaps it may be the means of a very deserving tree being more extensively cultivated.—CESAREAN, *St. Heliers, Jersey.*

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR OCTOBER.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

OCTOBER is the principal month for planting; and the sooner in the month it is done the better. Many defer it until November; but we prefer the last week of September to the first week of November, because if well established now, many advantages will follow.

Full directions for preparing the beds, planting, &c. have been given at the commencement of this treatise.

Choose healthy vigorous plants, and not too large.

Place a number in small pots for wintering in cold frames; of the less valuable kinds, six or eight plants in a pot of a large size will winter well, and take less room.

TO THE TULIP GROWERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to address you, and to invite you to a conference on the subject of the great tulip exhibition for 1851, delegated by you, at your late meeting in Manchester, to the society I represent.

I would gladly have done this at an earlier date, but before doing so, I wished, personally, to confer with Mr. J. F. Wood and Mr. Edwards, an opportunity for which occurred very recently only. Now, having the satisfaction to know that my

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views meet their approval, I enter upon the duty with more confidence.

In regular course, after receipt of your delegation, at the hands of your late secretary, Mr. Dixon, I laid the same before the committee of the horticultural society here, and I am gratified to state that it was received with warm cordiality, and a motion, pledging the committee to give it all possible support, and a gratuitous accommodation in the large hall in which the exhibitions of the society are held, with a donation of £5 to the fund, unanimously adopted. John Edwards, Esq., in a manner only to be appreciated by those who have the gratification of knowing him, has directed me to place his name on the subscription list for £10; Thomas Adams, Esq., £5; Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, £5; and my own donation, £5, completes £30.

I mention this merely to claim your attention to what follows, and to this I invite your serious consideration. It may not possibly be generally known to you that the great meeting at Manchester entailed a responsibility on the managers there. Such, however, was the fact,—a fact as unjust to those gentlemen as it will, I am quite sure, be repugnant to your own feelings. I emphatically state, I will not accept such undefined responsibility, neither can I submit that any gentlemen with whom I am associated shall come under such a charge. A heavy burden thrown upon an individual cannot be consistent with the progress of floriculture as a science, and I feel persuaded the declaration will not lower me in your confidence. But, gentlemen, whilst I thus avow my determination not to accept of an undefined responsibility, I feel that I may and ought to pledge myself to use every means, according to the ability given me, to promote the success of your exhibition, and this I do most heartily and unhesitatingly. What, however, are the efforts of an individual? Will you, or can you, debar yourselves of your *right to aid, your pleasure* in aiding? Will you trust to one person the duty that belongs to you collectively?—a duty in which every individual is interested, the least as the greatest, and which may be pleasurable or otherwise, according as your labours are energetic or lukewarm. Will you allow a work you have reared yourselves, to fall in its third year, an abortion from your hands? Or will you, with one heart and voice, with an unanimous effort, raise it to the culminating point, your pride, and wonder, and delight? Of course you will not withhold your hand—of course you will perfect your work. I propose, therefore, as a simple means to this end, the formation of a committee in every city and town, village and floral district, throughout the kingdom. Such committee to communicate with the central committee, to canvass for subscribers, to report the probable number of exhibiters, and generally to suggest such arrangements as may

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seem most conducive to the success of the exhibition; and let but such committees accept their mission heartily and cheerfully, and your work is perfected. Think of the aggregate sum, when every lover of flowers in the length and breadth of the kingdom has contributed his or her (for we love the ladies, and invoke their aid) five shillings, two shillings and six-pence, or one shilling, to *the fund*. And, gentlemen, let me entreat your special attention to the last-named sum;—think of what is due to humble devotees—think of the pleasure received and conferred. In days gone past, it has been a theme and a glory to remark, "I took a part in that great battle, I stood to the guns on that bloody day." Such themes, we hope, are past; but shall not florists, and poor florists, have their theme? Shall they not be permitted to boast, "I lent my aid to that great work, I helped to achieve that great success?" Surely they may, and surely you, gentlemen of the respective committees, will give them an opportunity so to participate. Remember the work that engages you; remember the result to be produced: the large sum, the aggregation of small sums—the flowers to be brought forward, certain to be the best, and indicating the progress of the tulip. Remember the GREAT MEETING: the commingling of ideas, the action of mind upon mind, the radiation of knowledge, the interest and regard created by reciprocal kind offices, the removal of vague idea and its concomitant distrust, and above all and beyond all, the sympathetic action acknowledged by the whole community, in the fact each individual enunciates, "I took part in that great work."

Gentlemen, addressing enthusiasts and devotees,—men susceptible of the delights of floriculture, and endued with thought, and energy, and purpose,—I cannot doubt your response, and I entreat of you, therefore (my personal ignorance compelling this request), that you will, with the least possible delay, communicate to me your proceedings. Waiting which,

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient and faithful servant,

E. S. DODWELL.

Derby, September, 1850.

Part XXX.

QUERIES.

Is it possible that the currant can be much improved? I have seen some very large ones this season, particularly red and white. Can you give a list of any new sorts? I have been told that there is a "White Black," a "Black-fruited Red,"

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and "variegated-leaved" currants. I am anxious to know somewhat of their respective merits, and shall be glad of an answer in your next number. W. S.

There has been much dispute in my neighbourhood relative to the new celery which was let out last season. A Sheffield sort is beaten by Seymour's Superb, and Jones's Red is also heavier. I have found Cole's Dwarf Red (though why it is called dwarf I don't know) a nice and excellent variety. What may be your experience in this vegetable?

Birmingham. JAMES MASON.

I am a cottager, and in the neighbourhood in which I live a considerable quantity of land, through the kindness of the clergyman and influential inhabitants of the parish, has been taken at a low rent, and portioned out in allotments of a rood each. I take your *Midland Florist*, and if you can give myself and other holders a hint or two how to plant it, and what to plant it with, in order to bring in most profit, you will lay us under much obligation. We are within three miles of a large town, where we could have a good market. WM. THOMPSON.

What are the most suitable plants to make a great show in a small garden? Mine is only in front of a house, in the suburbs of a large town. The sparrows are very mischievous, and I should be glad if you could give me some hint, not only to drive them away, but also to make my garden gay. Any information before next spring will oblige MARY R.

I think it would be a feature in your useful little publication, if you would give your readers occasional instructions as to the best modes of preparing their vegetables and fruits for consumption. For instance, I am told that parsnips make good wine; that carrots and other vegetables form the foundation of a very rich and excellent pudding; that rhubarb forms an excellent preserve; that the leaves of a common weed (the Foal-foot) make excellent beer, while the flowers are equally adapted for wine. I am sure information on these points would be highly beneficial and acceptable to very many of your readers, as well as to A WORKING MAN.

[Will our readers help us in this matter? Many ladies have excellent receipts, which we should be glad to publish.]

Can you give a list of a few of the best yellow picotees you have seen this season? and oblige yours, DIANTHUS.

[The impulse given to the cultivation of the yellow picotee is becoming evident, and such flowers as Hoyles's Topaz, Malay Chief, Parsee Bride, &c., will produce, by care and cross-impregnation, flowers which will be eagerly sought after. In addition to the varieties previously noticed in this work, we would add the following, which are highly deserving of

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cultivation, though some are not quite what they ought to be yet. We trust it will meet the wishes of our correspondent.

Georgy is a seedling raised in Guernsey. Yellow ground, edged with purple. It crowns remarkably well, but is slightly serrated, though when well grown this is scarcely perceptible.

La Grandeur.—Buffish yellow, heavily edged with dark crimson. A very attractive and bold variety.

Le Marquis.—Bright canary, edged with light red. A very lively and pretty sort; good form.

L'Hussard.—The best form and petal we have seen amongst yellow picotees; crowns well; light yellow, edged with pale rose. It is deficient in size, but from its other qualities, would be good to seed from.

La Petite Princesse.—Buff, rather coarsely edged with dark crimson; petals somewhat serrated.

Malay Chief (May).—A bold variety, with good petal; yellow, heavily marked with bright red.

Lord Gough.—A Guernsey seedling; pod good, and the ground colour bright yellow, heavily margined with purple; distinct and good.

Bartlett's William IV.—The ground colour nearly orange, rather heavily marked with a rich purple. Though not very well grown, this is evidently a superior variety.

Le Cuirassier.—Very good form; stout petal; pale yellow, heavily edged with red.

La Villageoise.—Sulphur, laced with marone; rather tall in its growth; a distinct variety.

Kossuth.—The yellow pale, heavily edged with rose and slate colour; a very remarkable and distinct variety.

Samiel.—This is also different to anything we have previously seen. Ground colour canary, bleaching a good deal as the flower ages. The marking is distinct stripes of rosy purple.]

In the *Durham Advertiser* of August 1st, Mr. John Slater, of Cheetham Hill, referring to the trial exhibition of carnations and picotees, held at Derby, August 7th, says, "Slater's Matchless, heavy red picotee, was much admired, but as I did not approve of the system of showing on cards, I did not stage any for competition." Now, as I know Mr. Slater took single blooms only to the exhibition, and as in the schedule sent to me it is stated, "*Single blooms* OFF *cards*,"—and if this condition were not observed, the managers of the exhibition deserve severe reprobation; and if it were, Mr. Slater's statement is not true,—I beg to ask of you, as one of the judges, whether the single blooms were shown ON or OFF cards, so that we may know where the blame lies, and a matter which has led to considerable comment in this neighbourhood be decided.

Manchester. L. M.

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[Your inquiry should have been addressed to the secretary of the exhibition. The single blooms were shown off cards. We understood Mr. Slater had full information at the time to this effect.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

I see in your last month's number a subscriber wishes to be informed who broke the flamed Kate Connor that Mr. Wood saw at the Great Northern Tulip Show. James Houlker, of Blackburn, broke it from the breeder this year; he also broke two others, one feathered very fine, in his opinion superior to any feathered rose out, the bottom and white very pure, feather bright scarlet, and shape good; it stood the hot sun uncovered for a week without specking, or the colour running. The other broke feathered, but the white was smuggy and speckled, which did not clear out.

Strawberry Bank, Blackburn. JAMES HOULKER.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR OCTOBER.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

The dry weather during the last month very much retarded the growth of *cabbage plants*. Every opportunity should be taken to put in a good quantity. As *late potatoes* are taken up, manure the land, dig and plant. We have lately recommended the best sorts.

Choose also the most sheltered and richest spot for some *cauliflower plants*. Where artificial shelter can be made, by hand-glasses, or spare frames, they will be turned to good purpose, by protecting the plants during severe weather.

Some people grow *Jerusalem artichokes*, though we do not recommend them for small gardens. It will be requisite, toward the latter end of the month, to take the tubers up, and store them away in dry sand. *Horse radish* also should be similarly treated, though nine out of ten prefer the old way of getting it up as wanted.

Transplant *lettuce*. The Bath Coss is hardy and good, and the Black seeded variety is very excellent.

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Earth up late crops of *celery*. Has any of our readers tried Roberts's tiles for blanching, and with what effect?

FRUIT GARDEN.

Plantations of *gooseberries* and *currants* may be made about the middle of the month. Of the former, for cropping, few beat Companion, Lancashire Lad, and Crown Bob; whilst for flavour, the Pitmanston Greengage and Rumbullion are highly desirable. Of the latter we prefer the Long-bunched Red Dutch and the Haughton Castle. Cuttings of the above fruits may now be put in, cutting out the four or five bottom buds of each shoot; and at the latter end of the month, pruning should be attended to.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Roses, both standard and dwarf, may be planted towards the latter end of the month. (See an article in this number.)

Bulbs, such as *narcissi*, *iris*, &c. should be taken up immediately, if not already done. *Box edying* may be planted or repaired; and take care that a good selection of *biennials* are put out. There are many pretty things, such as the *Canterbury bells*, various *dianthuses*, or *sweetwilliams*, with *German scabiouses*, &c. In the early part of the month, draw the soil about the stems of *dahlias*, to protect the crowns from the effects of sudden frost. Should the foliage be destroyed by the latter end of the month, it will be advisable to take the plants up, remove the side branches, and allow the roots to stand ten days in an open shed, previous to removing the tops.

GREENHOUSE.

Care must be taken that the plants have abundance of air in mild weather. Repot all plants which require it. Put *verbena cuttings* in store pots for the winter; and let all soft-wooded plants, recently struck, be got ready for winter quarters. Large *scarlet geraniums* may be taken from the beds, if required, reduced very much in size, and potted. *Chrysanthemums* will be helped by liquid manure. The dwarf varieties recently introduced to notice are very pretty. *Hyacinths*, *Persian iris*, and *narcissus* may be potted in rich soil. We have bloomed them all beautifully in moss.

FLORISTS' FLOWERS.

Immediately pot off *carnation layers*: two in a pint pot will do. If the sort is scarce and valuable, trim the old stool, and allow it to remain. Many excellent pipings may be got off next summer. The beds of *pinks*, *hollyhocks*, and *pansies* ought to be made up directly. Plant offsets of *tulips* the early part of the month; and have the whole collection in the bed the last week, if the weather is favourable.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

May 29th.

Pan of Six.—1. Charles X., Baguet, Heroine, Princess Royal, Sanzio, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. Hepton. 2. Baguet, Alexander Magnus, Comte de Vergennes, Triomphe Royale, Catafalque Superior, and Sanzio, Mr. Merryweather. 3. Surpass Catafalque, Bienfait, Feathered Rose (seedling), Polyphemus, Alexander Magnus, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. Barnett.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Mr. Hepton.
2 Catafalque Superior, Mr. Merryweather.
3 Charles X., Mr. Hepton.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Rufus, Mr. Hepton.
2 Sanzio, Mr. Pearson.
3 Catafalque Superior, Messrs. Backhouse.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, Mr. Merryweather.
2 Baguet, Mr. Bell.
3 Bienfait, Mr. Hepton.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 La Belle Narene, Mr. Pearson.
2 Baguet, Mr. Steward.
3 Baguet, Mr. Pearson.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Hepton.
2 Comte de Vergennes, Mr. Merryweather.
3 Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Hepton.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Merryweather
2 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Bell.
3 Aglaia, Mr. Hepton.

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, Mr. Steward.
2 Cotherstone, Mr. Merryweather.
3 Ditto, ditto.

Breeders.

1 Premier (Bizarre), Mr. Hepton.
2 Madonna (Byblœmen), Mr. Hepton.
3 Catherine (Rose), Mr. Hepton.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF YORK FLORISTS.

May 30.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Mr. Hepton.
2 Catafalque Superior, Mr. Merryweather.
3 Charles X., Mr. Hepton.
4 Ditto, ditto.
5 Catafalque Superior, Mr. Bell.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Mr. Barnett.
2 Sheet Anchor, Mr. Hepton.
3 Strong's King, Mr. Hepton.
4 Polyphemus, Mr. Hepton.
5 Ditto ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, Mr. Hepton.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, Mr. Cowper.
4 Ditto, Mr. Merryweather.
5 Ditto, Mr. Hepton.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Countess of Harrington, Mr. Merryweather.
2 Baguet, Mr. Steward.
3 Ditto, Mr. Merryweather.
4 Princess Royal, Mr. Hepton.
5 Van Amburgh, ditto.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Hepton.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto.
4 Lady Middleton, ditto.
5 Heroine, Mr. Cowper.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Hepton.
2 Aglaia, ditto.
3 Catherine, ditto.
4 Arlette, ditto.
5 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Merryweather

Selfs.

1 King of Selfs, Mr. Barnett, a seedling yellow, raised by Mr. Willison, of Whitby, and free from stain.
2 Cotherstone, Mr. Merryweather.
3 King of Selfs, Mr. Barnett.
4 Min d'Or, Mr. Steward.
5 Ditto, Mr. Bell.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Earl Raudon, Mr. Repton.
2 Pilot, ditto.
3 Premier, ditto.
4 Polyphemus, ditto.

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5 Polyphemus, Mr. Repton.
Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Maid of Athens, Mr. Steward.
2 Madonna, Mr. Bell.
3 Lightbody's Kosciusko, Mr. Hepton.
4 Lord Byron, ditto.
5 Ditto, ditto.

Rose Breeders.
1 Catherine, Mr. Hepton.
2 Lady Stanley, ditto.
3 Catherine, ditto.
4 Queen Dowager, Mr. Merryweather.
5 Lady Stanley, Mr. Bell.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mrs. Kitchen, the Orange Tree Inn, Butley, May 31st.

Premier Prize (silver cup).—Perfecta, Bienfait, Comte de Vergennes, Polyphemus, Pyramid of Egypt, and Triomphe Royale, G. Chadwick.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Magnum Bonum, J. G. Winterbottom.
2 Sysigambis, G. Chadwick.
3 Charlatan, M. Swindells, Esq.
4 Duke of Devonshire, G. Chadwick.
5 Trafalgar, Mr. Grimsditch.
6 Seedling, G. Clarke.
7 Crown Prince, Mr. Grimsditch.
8 Royal Sovereign, J. G. Winterbottom.
9 Goud Beurs, J. Davenport.
10 Knight's 63, ditto.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Flamme de Guerre, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 Polyphemus, M. Swindells, Esq.
3 Lustre, G. Chadwick.
4 Flamme de Guerre, Mr. Grimsditch.
5 Charles X., M. Swindells, Esq.
6 Seedling, G. Chadwick.
7 No. 63, Mr. Grimsditch.
8 Turner's Black Prince, ditto.
9 Strong's King, M. Swindells, Esq.
10 Albion, G. Chadwick.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Baguet, J. G. Winterbottom.
2 Bienfait, M. Swindells, Esq.
3 Queen of Violets, ditto.
4 Duc de Bordeaux, J. G. Winterbottom.
5 Washington, G. Chadwick.
6 Ambassador, Mr. Grimsditch.
7 Buckley's 46, M. Swindells, Esq.
8 La Belle Narene, G. Clarke.
9 Bouquet, ditto.
10 Tout, Mr. Grimsditch.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Lady Flora, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 La Belle Narene, ditto.
3 H. L. B., M. Swindells, Esq.
4 Bienfait, Mr. Grimsditch.
5 Baguet, Mrs. Kitchen.
6 Sable Lass, M. Swindells, Esq.
7 Wolstenholme's Byblœmen, ditto.
8 Queen of May, Mr. Grimsditch.
9 Duke of York, M. Swindells, Esq.
10 Black Knight, J. Davenport.

Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 Comte, J. G. Winterbottom.
3 Rose Gem, M. Swindells, Esq.
4 Dolittle, G. Chadwick.
5 La Belle Nannette, M. Swindells.
6 Rose Transparent, Mr. Grimsditch.
7 Duc de Bronte, Mrs. Kitchen.
8 Unknown, G. Chadwick.
9 Ditto, Mrs. Kitchen.
10 Dolittle, ditto.

Flamed Roses.
1 Unique, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 Vesta, ditto.
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
4 Rose Unique, ditto.
5 Flamed Rose, M. Swindells, Esq.
6 Domingo, G. Chadwick.
7 Voerhelm, ditto.
8 Rose Ruby, Mr. Grimsditch.
9 Regium, J. Davenport.
10 Lord Hill, G. Chadwick.

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Sunbeam, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 Faulkner's Breeder, ditto.
3 Truth, J. Davenport.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Countess of Warrington, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 Gibbons's Breeder, J. Davenport.
3 Seedling, G. Clarke.

Rose Breeders.
1 Lady Stanley, J. Davenport.
2 Lady Lustre, Mr. Grimsditch.
3 Lady Jane Grey, J. Davenport.

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, Mr. Grimsditch.
2 White Flag, ditto.

DARLINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Friday, May the 31st.

TULIPS.

OPEN TO ALL ENGLAND.

Pans of Six.—1. Heroine, Charles X., Princess Royal, Triomphe Royale, Baguet, Sheet Anchor, Mr. Hepton, York. 2. Triomphe Royale, Baguet,

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Catafalque Superieure, Lady Crewe, Countess of Harrington, Unknown, Mr. Merryweather, York. 3. Magnum Bonum, Harrison's Sam, Lawrence's Friend, Queen Charlotte, Baguet, Aglaia, W. Backhouse, Esq.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., Mr. Summers.
2 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Hepton.
3 Lord Nelson, Mr. Merryweather.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, Mr. Summers.
2 Harrison's Sam, W. Backhouse.
3 Sanzio, Mr. Merryweather.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Baguet, Mr. Hepton.
2 Ditto, Mr. Merryweather.
3 Bienfait, Mr. Summers

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Baguet, Mr. Steward, York.
2 Van Amburgh, Mr. Hepton.
3 Venus, Mr. Merryweather.

Feathered Roses.
1 Heroine, Mr. Summers.
2 Duchess Newcastle, Mr. Hepton.
3 Lady Crewe, Mr. Steward.

Flamed Roses.
1 Mountain Sylph, Mr. Hepton.
2 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Summers.
3 Aglaia, Mr. Merryweather.

Selfs.
1 Cotherstone, Mr. Merryweather.
2 Min d'Or, Mr. Summers.
3 Ditto, Mr. Hepton.

OPEN TO GENTLEMEN'S GARDENERS, AMATEURS, AND MARKET GARDENERS.

Pans of Six.—1. Rose Manon, Transparent Noir, Polyphemus, Rose Royal, Aslem, Platoff, Mr. J. Wetherell. 2. Triomphe Royale, Polyphemus, seedling, Rose Matilda, Waterloo, North's Black Baguet, Mr. Smith.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Surpass Catafalque, Mr. Wetherell.
2 Rising Sun, Mr. W. Smith.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, Mr. Marley.
2 Harrison's Sam, Mr. Elwin.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Unknown, Mr. Wetherell.
2 Bienfait, Mr. G. Elwin.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Davy's Q. Charlotte, Mr. Priestman.
2 Duc de Berri, Mr. Smith.

Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Middleton, Mr. Marley.
2 Unknown, Mr. Elwin.

Flamed Roses.
1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Marley.
2 Cerise Belle Forme, J. Pease, Esq.

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, Mr. Marley.
2 Mountain of Snow, ditto.

Extra Prize.—Tray of Six.—Platoff, Harrison's Sam, Cerise Belle Forme, Madame Vestris, Lawrence's Friend, and Davy's Queen Charlotte, William Backhouse, Esq.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. S. Bromley's, Gardener's Tavern, Common, Macclesfield, June 7.

Premier Prize.—Surpass Catafalque, Lustre, J. Goodwin.
Maiden Prize.—Duchess of Newcastle, E. Warhurst.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., J. Shone.
2 Surpass Catafalque, J. Walmsley.
3 Crown Prince, J. Lovett.
4 Spencer's Duke, J. Walmsley.
5 Old Dutch Catafalque, S. Bracegirdle
6 Charles X., J. Walmsley.
7 Trafalgar, E. Warhurst.
8 Pass Perfecta, J. Shone.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Lustre, J. Goodwin.
2 Pizarro, J. Devonport.
3 Farran's Liberty, J. Brocklehurst.
4 Lustre, J. Walmsley.
5 Albion, J. Shone.
6 Polyphemus, J. Walmsley.
7 Unknown, J. Brocklehurst.
8 Charles X., J. Devonport.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 La Belle Narene, C. Pimblott.
2 Bienfait, J. Shone.
3 La Belle Narene, J. Walmsley.
4 General Washington, J. Shone.
5 Ambassador, J. Goodwin.
6 Duc de Bordeaux, J. Shone.
7 Unknown, J. Devonport.
8 Tharrier, J. Shone.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Violet Wallers, J. Walmsley.
2 Ditto, J. Goodwin.
3 Duchess de Moden, J. Devonport.
4 Violet a Font Noir, ditto.
5 Unknown, J. Brocklehurst.
6 Sable Rex, J. Shone.
7 Unknown, ditto.
8 Vulcan, J. Walmsley.

Feathered Roses.
1 Dolittle, J. Shone.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Duc de Bronte, J. Lovett.
4 Duchess of Newcastle, E. Warhurst.
5 Andromeda, J. Devonport.
6 Comte de Vergennes, J. Walmsley.
7 Hero of the Nile, J. Devonport.
8 Lady Crewe, J. Goodwin.

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Flamed Roses
1 Rose Unique, W. Swindell.
2 Ditto, J. Shone.
3 Walworth, ditto.
4 Ponceau Brilliant, J. Walmsley.
5 Rose Connue, ditto.
6 La Vandikken, J. Devonport.
7 Lord Hill, ditto.
8 Rose Vanqueur, J. Walmsley.

Breeders.
1 Charbonnier (bizarre), J. Shone.
1 Gibbons's Seedling(byb.)J.Devonport
1 Miss Catherine (rose),J. Brocklehurst

Seifs.
1 Min d'Or, J. Devonport.
1 White Flag, J. Shone.

HURDSFIELD TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Pownall, the Daybrook Inn.

Premier Prize.—Perfecta and Albion, M. L. Burgess.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Spencer's Grand Duke, C. Pimblott.
2 Trafalgar, J. Oldfield.
3 Savoy, G. Broadhurst.
4 Sysigambis, J. Shone.
5 Surpasse Catafalque, C. Pimblott.
6 Goud Beurs, J. Davenport.
7 Clark's seedling, M. L. Burgess.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Albion, M. L. Burgess.
2 Lustre, J. Davenport.
3 La Topaz, T. Pownall.
4 Unknown, J. Shone.
5 Unknown, M. L. Burgess.
6 High Carlos, ditto.
7 Degra, G. Broadhurst.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, T. Pownall.
2 Ditto, G. Broadhurst.
3 Baguet, M. L. Burgess.
4 Bordeaux, J. Davenport.
5 Unknown, T. Pownall.
6 La Belle Narene, J. Davenport.
7 Jeptha, J. Shone.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Czarinne, J. Davenport.
2 Baguet, J. Davonport.
3 Sable Rex, C. Pimblott.
4 Violet Waller, J. Barnshaw.
5 La Belle Narene, ditto.
6 Grotius, ditto.
7 Unknown, T. Pownall.

Feathered Roses.
1 Comte, M. L. Burgess.
2 Ditto, J. Davenport.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Oldfield.
4 Duc de Bronte, C. Pimblott.
5 Dolittle, M. L. Burgess.
6 Andromeda, J. Davenport.
7 Triomphe Royale, ditto.

Flamed Roses.
1 Unique, C. Pimblott.
2 Vesta, M. L. Burgess.
3 Aglaia, C. Pimblott.
4 Unique, J. Barnshaw.
5 Cerise Superieure, M. L. Burgess.
6 Lord Hill, C. Pimblott.
7 Triomphe Royale, J. Barnshaw.

Seifs.
Min d'Or, C. Pimblott.
White Flag, J. Barnshaw.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. G. Williamson, the Turner's Arms Inn, Bollington.

Premier Prize.—Triomphe Royale, Comte, G. Chadwick.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Trafalgar, Mr. P. Hibbert.
2 Ditto, Mr. Hayes.
3 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Wrigley.
4 Lord Lilford, ditto.
5 John Bull, Mr. Chadwick.
6 Beaver, Mr. Hibbert.
7 Competitor, Mr. Chadwick.
8 Charles X., Mr. Wrigley.
9 Unknown, Mr. Hayes.
10 Paul Pry, Mr. Wrigley.

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Lustre, Mr. Wrigley.
2 Charles X., Mr. Chadwick.
3 Truth, Mr. Oldfield.
4 Polyphemus, Mr. Wrigley.
5 Albion, ditto.
6 Strong's Ben, Mr. J. Hayes.
7 Charbonnier, Mr. Wrigley.
8 Lustre, M. Swindells, Esq.
9 Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Chadwick.
10 Flamme de Guerre, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, Mr. Chadwick.
2 Ditto ditto.
3 Edgar, Mr. Wrigley.
4 Marie Antoinette, M. Swindells, Esq.
5 Violet Winner, Mr. Hayes.
6 La Belle Narene, M. Swindells, Esq.
7 Duc de Bordeaux, Mr. Wrigley.
8 Washington, Mr. G. Chadwick.
9 Grotius, Mr. Wrigley.
10 Lady Flora, ditto.

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Roi de Siam, Mr. Wrigley.
2 Bienfait, Mr. Hayes.
3 Sable Rex, Mr. Wrigley.
4 Czarinne, ditto.
5 Roi de Siam, Mr. Chadwick.
6 Imperatrice de Maroc, M. Swindells, Esq.
7 A Fond Noir, Mr. Hayes.
8 Voerhelm, Mr. Chadwick.
9 Patroclus, Mr. Wrigley.

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10 Fair Flora, M. Swindells, Esq.
Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, Mr. Wrigley.
2 Comte, ditto.
3 Dolittle, Mr. Chadwick.
4 Duc de Bronte, ditto.
5 Lady Crewe, M. Swindells, Esq.
6 Claudian, Mr. Hayes.
7 Rose Ruby, Mr. Wrigley.
8 Heroine, J. Oldfield.
9 Selina, ditto.
10 Newcastle, ditto.
Flamed Roses.
1 Thalestris, Mr. Wrigley.
2 Unique, Mr. Wrigley.
3 Bacchus, Mr. Hayes.
4 Vainqueur, ditto.
5 Vesta, ditto
6 Triomphe Royale, ditto.
7 Reine de Cerise, ditto.
8 Newcastle, M. Swindells, Esq.
9 La Vandikken, ditto.
10 Comte, ditto.
Breeders
Polyphemus (biz.), M. Swindells, Esq.
Anastasia (rose), ditto.
Selfs.
Min d'Or, Mr. P. Hibbert.

PINK SHOW,

At T. Oxley's, Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield, June 24.

Maiden Prize.—Sturge, H. Barker. | Cup.—Mango, H. Bateman.

Purple-laced.
Premier—Mango, A. Knutt.
1 Coronation, J. Chatterton.
2 Professor, W. Bean.
3 Greensides, A. Knutt.
4 Mango, J. Simmonite.
5 Eliss, H. Bateman.
6 Suarrow, ditto.
7 Ruby, G. Brassington.
8 Ayrdale Beauty, J. Chatterton.
9 Magnificent, S. Pryor.
Red-laced
Premier.—Sturge, H. Barker.
1 Sturge, F. Bean.
2 Dr. Hepworth, J. Chatterton.
3 Susanna, ditto.
4 Adam Smith, J. Bean.
5 Criterion, J. Powell.
6 Mars, W. Bean.
7 Louis Tasso, J. Chatterton.
8 Dreadnought, G. Brassington.
9 Mrs. Brandling, J. Chatterton.
Black and White.
Premier.—Lady Frost, H. Bateman.
1 Lady Frost, Henry Hydes.
2 Kay's Mary, ditto.
3 Beauty of Blackburn, H. Bateman.
4 Snowball, H. Barker.
5 Alice Hawthorne, A. Knutt.
6 Citizen, G. Brassington.
7 Overall, A. Knutt.
8 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, ditto.
9 Repeal, W. Bean.
Seedlings.
1 Improved Mango, H. Barker.
2 Richelieu, A. Knutt.
3 Hope, J. Chatterton.
4 Baron, H. Barker.
5 Renown, J. Simmonite.
6 Catherine, J. Chatterton.

NOTTINGHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

June 26, at the Exchange Rooms, Nottingham.

RANUNCULUSES.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Goliath, Charles II., Ann, Sarah, Roseberry, Alice Gray, and six seedlings, S. Moore, Esq. 2. Naxara, Beroth, No Proxy, Admitus, Tartar, Triton, Otway, Firebrand, Dr. Franklin, Pliny, Quixote, and Vedar, Mr. Tongue.

ROSES.

Twenty-four Blooms (Nurserymen's Prize).—George IV., Baron Prevost, Coup d'Hebe, Boule de Nanteul, William Jesse, Cynthia, Duchess of Sutherland, Crested Moss, Blush Moss, Princess Augusta, Leve Sive, Chenedole, Triomphe de Laqueue, Cardinal Chererus, Enchantress, Claude Lorraine, Geant des Battailles, Blazii, Alba Parmentier, Las Cases, Madame Lacharm, Princess Clementina, and Asadaia, Mr. Frettingham.

Twenty-four Blooms (Amateurs').—1. Sylvan, Duchess of Sutherland, Comte de Paris, Mogador, Devoniensis, L'Inconnue, Lane, Le Vesuve, Lady Alice Peel, Emerance, Boule de Nanteul, Persian Yellow, Tromphe de Reine, Cambron, Cynthia, Comtesse Mole, La Sedirante, Comte Bouvert, Thiers, Sophie de Marseilles, Geant des Battailles, Madame Zoutman, General Jacqueminot, Œillet Parfait, and Las Cases, Mr. Hirst. 2. Duke of Cambridge, Baron Prevost, Lady Alice Peel, Madame Laffay, Cornet, Triomphe de Laqueue, Brennus, President Mole, Mrs. Elliott, Triomphe des Jansens, Paul Perras, Chenedole, Cleopatra, Jenny, Emerance, Princess Clementine, Amandine, Riego, Sophie de Marseilles, Bizarre Mabree, Guillaume Tell, Blanche Fleur, Madame Des-

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prez, and Capitaine Sisolet, Mr. G. Seals. 3 Robin Hood, Baron Prevost, Lane, William Jesse, Charles Duc de Trevise, Boule de Nanteul, Pope, Brennus, Fulgens, Alice Peel, Ariel, Argo, Exeter, Lady Orger, Wilmot, Lace, Olivia, Primo, Venus, Glory, No. 46, Coup d'Hebe, and Chenedole, Mr. Tongue.

Twelve Blooms (Amateurs').—1. Marianne, Maria Muschala, Blanche Fleur, William Jesse, General Hallard, Coup d'Hebe, Yellow Noisette, Kleber, Chenedole, Cramoise Superieure, Victoria, and Daphne, A. Lowe, Esq. 2. Coup d'Hebe, Baron Prevost, Chenedole, Duchess of Sutherland, Duc de Trevise, Boule de Nanteul, Madeline, Sophie de Marseilles, Jenny, Mrs. Elliott, Blanche Fleur, and Charles Fouguer, S. Moore, Esq. 3. Robin Hood, Violet Cremone, Aspasia, Miss Channay, Madame Hardy, Duke of Sussex, Coup d'Amiens, Cambronne, Sir Walter Scott, Madame Laffay, Charles Duval, and Brennus, Mr. J. Clark. 4. General Kleber, Henry Barbet, Bath Moss, Madame Hardy, Coup d'Hebe, Baron Prevost, White Globe Hip, Lilac Queen, unknown, Josephine Beauharnais, Duchess of Sutherland, and Hybrid, Mr. Hardy.

Six Blooms (Amateurs').—1. Madame Laffay, Paron Prevost, Josephine, Moss, Fulgens, and Hebe, Mr. Taylor. 2. Fellcite Parmentier, Lorraine, Madame Desprez, Crested Moss, Clementine, and Madame Laffay, Mr. W. Cook.

PINKS.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Victoria, Coronation, Gem, Rosea Elegans, Abel Neal, Sir Harry Smith, Princess Royal, Jenny Lind, Joseph Sturge, XX, Loria, and Rosalind, Mr. Tongue. 2. Queen, Joseph Sturge, Prince Albert, Snowball, Rosabel, Lord Calthorpe, Gem, Harriet, unknown, Maria, Codrington, and seedling, Mr. Taylor. 3. Queen, Joseph Sturge, Prince Albert, Snowball, Lord Calthorpe, Harriet, Maria, Codrington, Sir Harry Smith, and three seedlings, Mr. Hirst.

PANSIES.

Twenty Blooms.—1. Alexis, Aurora, Berryer, Bishop of Oxford, Constellation, Climax, Duchess of Rutland, Great Britain, Laneii, Lucy Neal, Lady Lucan, Marchioness of Lothian, Milton, Notabilis, Optimus, Polyphemus, Jenny Lind, Masterpiece, Perfection, and Zabdi, Mr. J. Gibbons. 2. Alba Superba, Duke of Norfolk, Lucy Neal, Zabdi, Rival Yellow, Hon. Mrs. Harcourt, Marquis of Lothian, North Britain, Jenny Lind, Aurora, Rainbow, Cossack, and eight seedlings, Mr. J. Nevill.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. D. Barker's, Traveller's Inn, Broom Hill, near Sheffield, July 1.

Maiden Growers' Prizes.—1. Sturge, D. Barker. 2. Sturge, W. Bean.

Cup.—Jenny Lind, A. Knutt.

Purple-laced.

Premier, Coronation, A. Knutt.
1 Greensides, J. Simmonite.
2 Jenny Lind, G. Brassington.
3 Coronation, J. Simmonite.
4 Ayrdale Beauty, G. Brassington.
5 Suarrow, H. Bateman.
6 Mango, B. Morton.
7 Huntsman, H. Bateman.
8 True Blue, A. Knutt.

Red-laced.

Premier.—Sturge, D. Barker.
1 Sturge, W. Bean.
2 Cant's Criterion, B. Morton.
3 Louis Tasso, A. Knutt.
4 Surplus, J. Chatterton.
5 Dr. Hepworth, ditto.
6 Splendence, A. Knutt.
7 Codrington, D. Barker.
8 Dreadnought, G. Brassington.

Black and White.

Premier.—Kay's Mary, J. Simmonite.
1 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, A. Knutt
2 Standard of England, W. Green.
3 Lady Frost, J. Simmonite.
4 Snowball, D. Barker.
5 Kay's Mary, G. Brassington.
6 Beauty of Blackburn, B. Morton.
7 Beauty of Halliwell, A. Knutt
8 Superior, G. Brassington.

Seedlings.

1 Merry Monarch, J. Simmonite.
2 Truth, ditto.
3 Beauty of Sheffield, A. Knutt.
4 Eclipse, J. Simmonite.
5 Reserve, B. Morton.
6 Clara, A. Knutt.
7 Catherine, J. Chatterton.

FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

The Members of the Felton Union of Florists and Horticulturists held their annual exhibition of ranunculuses, pansies, and vegetables, being their third

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show for the season, on Monday, the 1st of July, at Mr. Appleby's, the North Briton Inn, Felton, when the prizes were awarded as follow :—

VARIEGATED RANUNCULUSES.—The 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th prizes to Mr. Wm. Harrison, Felton Bridge End, for La Singulier, Jourdan, Tyso's Cathcart, Lightbody's Commodore Napier, and Lightbody's Dr. Darwin; and the 2nd to Mr. T. Dawson, of Acklington, for Suprema.

SELF-COLOURED RANUNCULUSES.—The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th prizes to Mr. Wm. Harrison, for Nabat, Orange Brabancon, Tyso's Grand Romana, Tyso's Dictator, and Condorcet; and the 6th to Mr. William Scott, Felton, for Admiral Keppel.

PANSIES.—The 1st prize to Mr. J. Crossling, Felton Park, for the best stand of six dissimilar varieties, consisting of Berryer, Commodore, Disraeli, Lucy Neal, Duke of Norfolk, and Mrs. Beck; the 2nd to ditto, for Crossling's Golden Guage, ex. ex. ex., Rainbow, Alexis, Supreme, Duchess of Norfolk, and Jessy Mode; the 3rd to ditto, for Model of Perfection, Helen, Duchess of Rutland, Orestes, Golden Guage, and Optimus; the 4th to ditto, for Cyprus, Clio, Duke of Norfolk, Aurora, Viceroy, and Miss Edwards; the 5th to ditto, for Duchess of Rutland, Golden Guage, Blue Perfection, Black Bess, Mrs. Bragg, and Superb; and the 6th to ditto, for Orestes, Helen, Lucy Ashton, Golden Guage, White Sargent, and Snowflake. The prize for the best seedling pansy was awarded to that veteran amateur florist, Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Acklington, for Dawson's Duchess of Northumberland, a fine straw-ground variety, delicately margined with light purple, an elegant and well-named flower.

LEICESTER FLORAL SOCIETY.

July 3.

ROSES.

Stands of Six.—1. Brennus, Double-margined Hip, Charles Duval, Boule de Nanteul, Dr. Marx, and Coup de Hebe, W. Cox. 2. Charles Duval, Coup de Hebe, William Jesse, Dr. Marx, Boule de Nanteul, and Mrs. Elliott, J. Jackson. 3. Madame Souchet, Coup de Hebe, Charles Duval, Paul Joseph, Clementina, and Robin Hood, J. Corah. 4. Mrs. Bosanquet, Stadtholder, Boule de Nanteul, Crested Provence, Charles Duval, and Blanchfleur, J. D. Hextall. 5. Charles Duval, Boule de Nanteul, Mrs. Elliott, Madam Hardy, Endymion, and unknown, W. Moor, jun. 6. Triomphe de la Queue, Double-margined Hip, Hypocrate, Mrs. Elliott, Clementine, and Charles Duval, H. Marris.

Stands of Three.—1. Charles Duval, Mrs. Elliott, and Chenedole, F. Lane. 2. Mrs. Elliott, Bizarre Marbre, and Charles Duval, W. Moor, jun. 3. Mrs. Elliott, Double-margined Hip, and William Jesse. 4. Coup de Hebe, Clementine, and Comte de Paris, J. Corah.

PINKS.

Stands of Six.—1. M'Clean's Narborough Buck, Smith's Diana, M'Clean's Criterion, Costar's Lola Montes, Hodges's Melona, and Willmer's Laura, R. Marris. 2. Willmer's Surplus, Norman's Henry Creed, Willmer's Elizabeth, Turner's Masterpiece, Willmer's Laura, and Norman's Henry Steers, J. D. Hextall. 3. Kirtland's Prince Albert, Marris's Sir Harry Smith, Hand's Pilot, Read's Jenny Lind, M'Clean's Criterion, and Hudson's Duke of Devonshire, T. Marris. 4. Hudson's Duke of Devonshire, Willmer's Laura, Smith's Princess Royal, Lee's Joseph Sturge, Harris's King of Purples, and Mills's Lady Flora Hastings, W. Cox. 5. Willmer's Laura, Marris's Neptune, Gatliffe's Tyro, Hudson's North Briton, Turner's Masterpiece, and Mills's Lady Flora Hastings, W. Mitchell. 6. Six seedlings, F. W. Hollyoake.

Stands of Three.—1. Willmer's Laura, Keyne's Hon. Mrs. Herbert, and Jones's Huntsman, R. Marris. 2. Smith's Princess Royal, Marris's Neptune, and Willmer's Laura, W. Mitchell. 3. Marris's Lady Jane Grey, Hand's Pilot, and Marris's Neptune, F. Lane. 4. Three seedlings, F. W. Hollyoake. 5. Read's Jenny Lind, Hudson's Duke of Devonshire, and Willmer's Laura, W. Cox. 6. Sharpe's Splendid, Mills's Lady Flora Hastings, and Looker's Mary Ann, J. D. Hextall. 7. Harris's King of Purples, Marris's Sir Harry Smith, and Young's XX, T. Marris.

Purple-laced.

1 Kirtland's Prince Albert, R. Marris.
2 Looker's Lord Norreys, ditto.
3 Bunkell's Victoria, F. W. Hollyoake
4 Lee's Joseph Sturge, W. Cox.
5 Blackeyed Susan, R. Marris.

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6 M'Clean's Criterion, R. Marris.
7 Hand's Pilot, ditto.
8 Blackeyed Susan, ditto.

Red-laced.

1 Seedling, R. Marris.
2 Kirtland's Prince Albert, ditto.
3 Ellis's Brilliant, ditto.
4 Kirtland's Prince Albert, ditto.
5 Ellis's Brilliant, ditto.
6 Seedling, ditto.
7 M'Clean's Criterion.
8 Jenny Lind, ditto.

Black and White.

1 Looker's Forget-me-not, R. Marris.
2 Wigley's Snowball, ditto.
3 Rosthorn's Superior, ditto.
4 Looker's Marianne, ditto.
5 Wigley's Snowball, ditto.
6 Looker's Marianne, ditto.
7 M'Clean's Criterion, F.W. Hollyoake
8 Wigley's Snowball, J. D. Hextall.

PANSIES.

1. Hall's Rainbow, Hooper's Great Britain, Youell's Superb, Cox's White Seedling, Thomson's Zabdi, and seedling, T. Marris.

THE GREAT CENTRAL PINK SHOW,

Open to Lancashire, Cheshire, and Staffordshire, took place on Saturday, July 6, at the house of Mr. Saml. Bromley, Gardeners' Tavern, Common, Macclesfield.

A gold medal was awarded to Mr. John Shone, for the best stand of six flowers, two in each class, viz. Duke of St. Albans, Greensides, Joseph Sturge, Susanna Virgin Queen, and Kay's Mary.

Purple-laced.

2 Mango, J. Shone.
3 Duke of St. Albans, ditto.
4 Attraction, ditto.
5 Huntsman, ditto.
6 Greensides, ditto.
7 Beauty of Rochdale, ditto.
8 Cheshire Hero, J. Hambleton.
9 Seedling, C. Pimblott.
10 Suarrow, ditto.

Red-laced.

1 Sturge, J. Shone.
2 Pemblott's Mary Seedling, C. Pemblott.
3 Susanna, J. Hambleton.
4 Little Wonder, J. Shone.
5 Dreadnought, ditto.
6 Dr. Hepworth, J. Shone.
7 Advance, J. Hambleton.
8 Pimblott's Jane Seedling, C. Pimblott.
9 Unknown, T. Boot.
10 Joseph Hulme, J. Hambleton.

Black and White.

1 Virgin Queen, C. Pimblott.
2 Kay's Mary, J. Hambleton.
3 Better Luck, J. Shone.
4 Snowball, ditto.
5 Beauty of Clayton, ditto.
6 Seedling, T. Boot.
7 Superior, J. Shone.
8 Lady Boldhaughton, C. Pimblott.
9 White Lily, T. Boot.
10 Blackeyed Susan, J. Shone.

There was a handsome prize for non-subscribers awarded to Mr. William Swindells, for Sturge.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. Lewis Greaves's, Red Lion Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 6.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, E. Barker
1 Jones's Huntsman, E. Barker.
2 Hand's Pilot, H. Heaton.
3 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, R. Moorley.
4 Bradshaw's Greensides, ditto.
5 Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, D. Brown.
6 Faulkner's Perfection, W. Griffiths.
7 Tilstone's Richd. Cobden, H. Eaton.
8 Taylor's Solon, D. Brown.

Red-laced.

Premier.—Lee's Josh. Sturge, D. Brown
1 Lee's Joseph Sturge, H. Eaton.
2 Mead's Susanna, E. Barker.
3 Seedling, Dorothy, R. Moorley.
4 Brundret's Sir William, W. Griffiths
5 Louis Tasso, E. Barker.
6 Southern's Bonny Bet, W. Griffiths.
7 Seedling, R. Moorley.
8 Unknown, W. Griffiths.

Black and White.

Premier.—Seedling, Fairy Queen, E. Barker.
1 Whalley's Beauty of Clayton, H. Eaton.
2 Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths.
3 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, ditto.
4 Rawsthorn's Superior, H. Eaton.
5 Smith's White Rose, E. Barker.
6 Baker's Overall, W. Griffiths.
7 Unknown, H. Eaton.
8 Parry's Union, W. Griffiths.

Judges.—Mr. E. Harding, Stoke-road, near Newcastle; and Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch near Iventham.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE DAHLIA SEASON, 1850.

BY A TRAVELLER SOUTH AND WEST.

THERE has rarely been such a trial season as that of 1850, for the cultivator of the dahlia. Harsh, dry, and windy, the atmosphere, during greater part of the blooming time, has been most unfavourable, and those who were determined to counteract its effects, as much as possible, have done it at no small sacrifice of labour. The flowers of last spring have therefore been grown under every disadvantage. It would not have surprised us if scarcely any of those let out in May had been exhibited; yet they have for the most part been shown enough to justify the opinions that were given of their several claims to notice, and of the hopes to be founded on the numerous novel claimants. The *Garden Almanack*, a sort of monitor on this subject, mentioned but five first-class flowers, and had it not been good naturedly inclined, it would only have mentioned one, Sir F. Bathurst; the others were all inferior to that, although they maintained their places tolerably well at the shows. Sir F. Bathurst has proved a trimmer, beating everything in its class, and never being beaten, if grown any how. Magnificent, as a novelty, is grand, but wants dressing sometimes, though dressing makes it perfect. Mrs. Seldon has proved an excellent yellow for use, as she is always respectable; and Snowflake is a sound excellent white, not without its faults, but always right in the centre. The other first-class flower was a "fancy" Elizabeth, condemned by the trade generally for a hard eye, but pronounced first

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class by Mr. Glenny all through the season. This has proved a gem in its way. In a competition for the prizes awarded to the best six new fancy flowers, Elizabeth was in every winning stand, and proved by far the best of all the fancy flowers let out. In second-class flowers, according to the same authority, there has been quite as little mistake. All but one mentioned in the *Almanack* have fully deserved the recommendation they had; indeed Queen of Lilacs and Duke of Cambridge have been shown well, and are useful varieties, although in the same class as Fearless, which there is nothing as yet to beat. George Glenny, about which the *Almanack* was doubtful, never came out. It was pronounced first-class, if anything, but—" a sort of announcement which could only be reconciled by the author's explanation that he had only seen one bloom. But the *Almanack* only contained about a dozen and a half of all the varieties let out. It seems that some others were not seen, and still more had been seen and rejected. Of the varieties let out without that recommendation, there were several, rather widely distributed. Lady of the Isles is a pretty little flower, but has not been seen much, except at the very early shows: the bloom is too small, too treacherous, too loose, and at its very best a rosette outline. Thames Bank Hero is large, coarse, flat-faced, and of the antique school. Seraph is a pretty orange, but no more use by the side of the Duke of Wellington than a dahlia of 1820. Gaiety, a glorious border flower, to be seen half a mile off, but certain to condemn a stand. Purity, a white, is never likely to be a favourite. Drummond's Attila is pretty, but it is said this was recommended in the *Almanack*, as "No. 44, Surrey," though not by name. Earl of Clarendon was shown a good deal, as was also Thames Bank Hero, for they are certain flowers, although not of the true dahlia form, nor possessing any merit but that of constancy, a quality which keeps the dahlia from improving much in the

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general appearance of the stands at a show. We have a few flowers that can always be cut, and these are sure to be always shown; but if any exhibiter were determined to grow none but tolerably good models, and plenty of each, so as to secure a bloom, there would soon be a change in the lists of successful candidates at shows. But good models are scarce, and soon enumerated. Sir F. Bathurst, Fearless, Scarlet Gem, Yellow Standard, Duke of Wellington, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Queen of the East, Toisson d'Or, Princess Radzville, Admiral Stopford, Purple Standard, Standard of Perfection, Magnificent, Snowflake, Mrs. Seldon, Mr. Seldon—where are we to turn now for the remainder? and even some of these how difficult to command in perfection. Why we must be content with less circular flowers; that is to say we must put up with a slightly scollopped outline. But unless we can obtain the positive uninterrupted circle for the outline of a *new* flower, we ought to condemn it. Ought we to encourage the sale of flowers with old faults under new names? Certainly not. We ought not to assist the raisers in perpetuating faults. No first-class certificate ought to be granted to flowers with a rosette outline, nor a sunk eye, nor with too few petals. This year there has been but little novelty shown. One or two flowers we must mention. First, the Queen of Beauties, a petal as thick as leather, and not a good shape, but a most extraordinary lavender spot, and therefore making up a very remarkable flower. This variety could not have been overlooked by the censors, because of its novelty and the thickness of petal, and anybody must buy it, because it may be the beginning of a new race. Second, a flower called Elegantissima, with very guttery petals, but of exceedingly novel colour and texture. It appears as if the petals were made of tortoise-shell. A singular flower, decidedly of the fancy class, not of first-rate form. These two will find a place each in most gardens. There has been little else to boast of, and

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no advancement in form. Summit of Perfection is improperly named; it is not so good as Sir Frederick Bathurst, nor so desirable, upon the whole, as Purple Standard. The Hon. Mr. Herbert is a bright and scratchy orange; new colour and good outline, but rather doubtful eye. George Glenny is one of those certain yellows which will always ensure a respectable bloom, and has the very best petal we ever saw. It has been grown too coarse. If any thing could spoil a flower, that must have been spoiled; but it has been shown in dozens and fifties, and all respectable. Queen of the West is a very desirable white, of better than average form; but for certainty, we can say nothing. We have seen six blooms shown exquisitely fine, and three since not so good; but it must rank high as a white. Bar Maid, the very best model of a white we possess; but the fault is a thin green film over the centre of many flowers, though some come without it, when it is really perfect. Ne plus ultra is a scarlet, and no doubt will dress well; but the petals do not reach each other in the natural growth, and the vacancy between them give it a coarse and rough appearance. Nepaulese Ambassador is a purple, of similar pretensions. Nepaulese Prince is the most promising, though ill-grown and ill-shown. We would rather have it than most of the new ones, because we think something may be done with it by a good grower, and that it may rank among the best. Nepaulese Chief should have been named Harlequin. It is one of the most curious flowers we have seen; the back of the petals being one colour and the front another; and moreover, the petals not being more than half open, it is as full of different coloured angles as a harlequin's jacket. Admiral is of much the same stamp as Fearless, but lighter, perhaps not quite so deep, but good. Lady Franklin is one of those indefinite colours that always throw a stand of flowers back, if indeed it should ever come good enough to tempt a man to use it. Old Corinne, thrown away years ago,

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was far before it, as shown at Chelsea. Yellow Gem is one of those varieties which may be called sure, but rarely arrive at first-rate excellence; it has a good round face, and at times a good outline, but often comes with each petal indented. Baltic is a fine dead gold colour, with an orange centre; too loose for a good flower, nevertheless, striking and rich in colour, and useful. Venus, a lighter and a worse flower. Mrs. Hansard is a yellow flower, with a white tip, full size, tolerably firm, a little scratchy, and ribbed, but decidedly a first-rate variety in the fancy class, and the best of the yellows with white tip of the present year's novelties. This was raised by John Edwards, Esq. of Holloway, an amateur who has done much for the fancy, although not yet well drilled into those principles which will ever guide the experienced florist. We have not mentioned other raisers, nor should we this, but for an attempt to give the credit to other parties, who only received the plant as the next kin to a gift. Kingfisher is a very noble fancy flower, of excellent form, and quite at the head of its colour. Roundhead is a good useful orange, with a fine outline; but the Duke will head this class, in spite of anything we have new. Pretty Polly, another fancy, which has obtained a certificate, is a complete retrograde in fancies; the petal is long and scoopy or guttery, and only tolerable as a new colour. These long-petalled flowers do, however, occasionally give a good bloom. Elizabeth, a tipped flower, will be found useful amongst the light class, and is the best perhaps that has been let out. Beauty of Chelsea is tipped and guttery, and no acquisition. Mrs. Bushell, a yellow, tipped with white; and Miss Pope, in the same class, are both inferior to Barnes's Lady Cullum of last year, and of course will not do against Mrs. Kensand. Criterion, a peach colour, has a bad character. Maid of Lodi, red and white fancy, is too much ribbed to be a favourite, and too small to be useful. Mr. Neville is red and coarse. Mr. Palmer a dead coarse

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orange, but likely to be useful, because new in colour; tolerable in outline, but nevertheless too coarse to be a great favourite. Admiral Napier, a dirty claret, ribbed and rough. Miss Farmer, one of those creamy indistinct flowers that are drawbacks to stands, even if well formed. Hon. Mrs. Ashley, a beautiful, but, we fear, uncertain, white, edged with lilac. Julian, an old-fashioned purple. Queen of the Fairies, a tolerable fancy flower, of the purple class, but sunk on the face and square sided. New Standard, not so good, in the same way. Napoleon, vermillion red, but no advance in form. We might fill a number with particulars of seedlings shown, and even honoured with certificates, which, we are sorry to say, is not, this year, *the least evidence of quality;* some that we should think hardly dare be let out, having had them awarded. The Dahlia King, though last, not least, is in form the most perfect in cultivation. It is of the Radzville breed, but twice as double, beautifully symmetrical, and two-thirds of a globe. It has all the points of form perfect. Mr. Glenny's opinion of it is thus given. "*Colour* rich crimson, *texture* velvety, *form* two-thirds of a ball, very double, very symmetrical, centre excellent and full up to the surface, size average." Among the other flowers that have been shown, there have been Carminata, Ambassador, Country Gentleman, Wonder, Legrand, Lady Craven, Col. Bacon, Mary, John Weedon, Minerva, Rosalind, Lady of the Lake, Mr. Clayton, Lady Cathcart, Masterpiece, Prince Arthur, Lovely, Miss Hoyle, Coquette, Nonsuch, Tricolor, Pretty, Duchess of Sutherland, Miss Hawtry, Victory, California, Lady Watson, Miss Wavlind, Stonehenge, Barrand, Rosebud, Novelty, New Standard, Beauty of the Grove, Sir Robert Peel. With all these aggravating flowers, too good to be quietly thrown away, and yet too bad to do anybody credit, at a great price, everybody who orders must throw the onus upon the persons recommending them. We do not remember so

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many flowers in any one year with so few that make any real advance; and the patronage of dahlia growers divided among so many novelties, all of which will be described with the addition of "excellent form," "good show flower," and the usual blandishments, will make it worse for all. Growers, however, for amusement, must go by the authorities with which they have been least disappointed. Certificates never were so cheap as this season. One society has given three times as many as it ought to have done; and at one public show, the judges have totally lost sight of those which have been thrown away, and actually given distinctions to worse. When we have selected a dozen which have some point of novelty to induce us to grow them, where are we to look for more? We may follow up the subject hereafter, but we believe we have done justice to all we have described. The rest have only the ordinary claims of old flowers, or have been shown in such bad condition as to lead to an unfavourable judgment.

CULTIVATION OF CELERY.

On reading your June number of the *Midland Florist*, I was much interested with "an improved mode of growing celery." Having no doubt that the plan adopted by "A Lover of Good Celery" is highly calculated to produce very early, good, "crisp," and sweet celery, at the same time I think the method there so explicitly laid down will not be within the reach of one-tenth of your numerous readers, being, as the writer admits, "expensive."

I have been a cultivator of celery a great number of years, and in the course of that time have tried "many experiments," some of which have been "failures;" but the most successful method I will detail, as it is not so "very expensive," and within the reach, I trust, of all your readers.

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The seed should be sown on heat, towards the latter end of February, and "forwarded after the manner of Cole's," till the beginning of May. At that time the plants should be placed in the trenches, which I make as follows:—Seven inches deep, and two feet, or two feet six inches wide. I am aware that many persons will differ with me here—they will say it is not deep enough; but if they will take the trouble to look at the roots of celery as it is taken up, they will find that it does not make so much root downwards as they suppose, especially if the trench has been made wide enough to admit its roots to grow horizontally. "Oh!" says a noted grower, "I always make my trenches a yard deep, and a yard wide,"—filling these trenches with manure, to within a few inches of the top, besides an addition of horn and bone dust, things I entirely deprecate in the cultivation of celery. When it is considered that celery, in its wild or natural state, is almost an aquatic, its treatment, in consequence, should be cool and moist, but bone and horn dust are the reverse of this. I say, with all this depth and width of manure, this is "*rather expensive*," as it will not cost far short of a shilling a yard, what with manure, bone and horndust,—in consequence, very expensive, as not more than three or four plants would be grown in a yard. This is "paying rather too dear for the whistle."

Having made the trench the beforenamed depth and breadth, I fill it with either good stable or pig manure. Whichever kind is used, it should neither be too new nor too old, but in such a condition that it can be cut with a spade. Cover the manure with good soil, or decayed vegetable matter, the depth of two inches. It will then be about two inches above the surface of the ground, but will afterwards settle down to about the proper level. Take the plants with a good ball of earth adhering to them, and set them from nine to twelve inches apart. If the weather be very hot at the time, the plants should be

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protected from the scorching rays of the sun (taking off the protection towards sunset), and freely watered from a rose watering pan. After the plants have taken "hold" of the ground, they will need no protection; but if the weather be dry, plenty of water after sunset. After they have attained the height of twelve inches, to prevent the wind from breaking down a portion of the outer stems, the plants will require tying round with a little bast matting, or anything of a soft texture; but care must be taken not to tie them too tight, or to allow the ligatures to remain too long in one place; but occasionally take them off, divest the plants of suckers or lateral shoots, and superfluous or cracked stems, and tie them a little higher. Let the plants be twenty inches high before commencing to earth them, and mind that they are well cleared of all lateral shoots, from about the insertion of the roots. If care is not taken in this respect, these shoots will afterwards deteriorate the growth of the celery. I never earth above two or three inches at a time, but do it frequently, as the plants grow, and take care not to cover the centre stem or heart (which would, in all probability, cause them to rot at the core), till the final earthing up, about three or four weeks before wanted for use.

Celery ought to be planted where it can get plenty of air. If set between rows of pease, beans, &c. as we frequently see it, they will have a tendency to draw it up long and small; but if planted where it can have a sufficiency of air, and treated as here directed, with frequent stirring of the soil about the plants, the whole length and breadth of the trench, satisfactory results will follow.

This is the plan I adopt, and I have grown the largest celery ever produced in this locality. In 1848 *(a wet season)*, I grew two sticks, weighing, when divested of lateral shoots and superfluous stems, twenty pounds fourteen ounces.

I ought to have observed before, that when the plants were about twenty inches high, I applied

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liquid manure, with the ammonia fixed (see *Midland Florist*, vol. I, p. 135), about once a week, with frequent supplies of clear water, after sunset. This I have applied to growing crops of different kinds, with great advantage.

In conclusion, I beg to observe, that I am not an advocate for *very large* celery, as it is generally coarse and stringy; but by adopting the plan here laid down, it may easily be grown from five to eight pounds per stick, "good, sweet, and crisp," provided the seed be of a good description.

HINTS ON PERENNIAL HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

Do you, Mr. Editor, grow larkspurs? Perhaps you may call them delphiniums. Well, we are both right. I do not mean those beautiful annual varieties which make my borders look so gay during the summer months, but the various perennial ones, that really are most lovely objects. How singularly beautiful is Delphinium Chinensis, with its slender flower stems and delicately cut foliage. Then the magnificence of its large azure blue flowers! But they sport very much, and from one sowing of seed made last year, I have a very pretty double variety, with a single white, and also a chocolate or dull pink. I am grieved to find that with me they are hardly more than biennial, and as they produce seed in such abundance, I think of treating them as such—planting a bed of fresh seedlings each year. I really think Delphinium Hulmii is very much in the way of these double Chinensises which I raise from seed; its flowers, as perhaps you know, though your readers may not, are of a very lively double blue; it grows from two to three feet high, and I think it a delightful though delicate variety. Some years ago, I obtained a double white one from seed. It was like Hulmii in everything but colour, and was from Chinensis;

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but I unfortunately lost it, after it had bloomed two years. At your recommendation, and seeing it advertised in the *Midland Florist*, I purchased Delphinium magnifica. It has bloomed beautifully with me. Its habit is dwarf, with large azure blue flowers; the foliage also is good, and the habit of the plant excellent. Though I must say I looked twice at my ten shillings and sixpence, before I sent it, I am now highly satisfied with my bargain. Why do you not part with that "Masterpiece" of yours? Certainly it is the best double delphinium I have yet seen. I want it to complete my collection of varieties. I saw your bloom exhibited in 1849, in Nottingham, and must confess I was not prepared for anything in the family half so good. Its form and habit are, as far as I can judge, equal to the expectation of the most sanguine. When it is well grown, what a gorgeous plant is Delphinium grandiflora major. Why I have seen it six feet high, with thousands of its splendid double flowers open at once. Its more humble neighbour, Delphinium grandiflora, or Siberica, is also really a very nice plant; its rich purple flowers are so good, and, combined with its dwarf habit, render it a general favourite. I must not leave out Barlowii; for every lover of a garden will thank us for telling him of this sort, and I would advise every reader of your book who has a square foot of ground at liberty in his garden, to make instant inquiry of the nearest nurseryman, and purchase it: perhaps he may have to give sixpence for it; or if, for a good root, he is even charged a shilling, next summer, when it expands its lovely spike of semidouble shaded purple flowers, he will think on H. S. M. with feelings something akin to gratitude. But I have noticed this flower to vary in character very much; some being more double than others, and mottled with a lighter shade, in a most beautiful manner. I continue to have them bloom late in the autumn. I accomplish this

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by cutting off the flower stems of certain roots, as soon as they have risen a good height, and before they have expanded a flower: this I find strengthens the plants, and causes them to throw a strong bloom the latter end of September, a point of some importance, when so many of our best border plants are past their prime. I cannot say that I am fond of tall larkspurs. I once grew two varieties. They were Speciosa and Excelsa; the former dark purple and the latter light blue. Both threw up spikes of flowers six feet high, but they were coarse in habit, and as I found they were not adapted to my small garden, I discarded them. But what a contrast is Delphinium pumila elegans, a beautiful pigmy, in comparison with the two previously named. It rises a foot high, with double purple flowers, more like the double blue hepatica than anything else. I have found this interesting sort very difficult to keep. Perhaps the most formidable rival to Magnifica is Delphinium compacta superbum. This is one of those with a white bee in the centre; the flowers are as thickly set on the stem as those of the rocket, are of excellent form, and deep purple, shaded with lilac; its height is from two to three feet. In this class of flowers I have not seen many variegations. The only one I grow is a tall sort, the foliage edged with cream colour, and the flowers deep purple: it apparently belongs to the Elatum section of the family. I understand that several new seedlings have been raised in various parts of the country. Can you tell me anything about them? or are they likely to appear in your advertising sheet? As I have contributed the information I possess of this beautiful family, let me hope that others of your readers will endeavour to add to the general stock. By this means others will reap some benefit, as well as your friend and correspondent,

H. S. M.

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COPPICEANA.

No. VIII.

We now, in the course of our descriptions, come to a class of pretty plants; in the north and midland counties, however, hardly capable of resisting the severity of our winters; though in more favoured parts of the kingdom, flourishing in great beauty. We allude to

Ceanothus. *(The Red Wood.)*

C. Azureus (The Blue Red Wood) is originally from Mexico, and has pale blue flowers, with the stamens standing prominently forward. It flowers in April and May, makes a good plant for a south wall, and may be purchased for 1s.

C. Papilosus.—A plant of recent introduction, having the leaves covered with what appear to be little blisters. It has not yet bloomed with us, but it has rather darker flowers than the preceding. It is of upright growth and pretty habit. Plants, 2s. 6d. each.

Cedrus. *(The Cedar.)*

Cedar of Lebanon.—Most people, at some time or other, have heard of the cedars of Lebanon, and magnificent trees they are. We remember, in our school-boy days, when these things had not much hold on our fancy, being particularly struck with those in the Duke of Richmond's park, at Goodwood, near Chichester, which we believe to be amongst the earliest planted in this country. It is a large evergreen tree, throwing out immense branches horizontally, giving it a character peculiarly its own. Where grandeur in the scenery is desirable, there ought the cedar of Lebanon to be planted. It is raised abundantly from seeds, which are produced in cones as large as a cricket ball. One of the best in this neighbourhood is at Castle Donington, Leicestershire; its large and massive branches hanging over the road, so that every passer-by can see it in all its beauty. Plants, according to size, from 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.

C. Deodara. (The Deodar Cedar.)—We hope this splendid tree will be planted by the thousand, for we think it even more beautiful than the preceding one. The branches are pendulous, and altogether it has a most graceful and pleasing habit. As a tree for the centre of a lawn, or any other conspicuous place, it is unrivalled. The leading shoot generally curves, at least while young, and some persons think it necessary to place a stake to keep it erect; but this is not

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requisite, in fact, it is positively injurious to the growth of the plant. They are raised from seed, now brought abundantly by the overland route from India. They may also be propagated by cuttings or layers, but this plan is not advisable. They are also grafted on the larch, or on the cedar of Lebanon, but we would at all times recommend those which have been raised from seed as most likely to make the finest trees. Young plants may now be had in most public nurseries, varying in price from 1s. 6d. to 21s.

C. Argentia. (The Silver or Mount Atlas Cedar.)—Of this we only possess a young plant. Its growth is most like the cedar of Lebanon, extending its branches horizontally. The foliage has a glaucous silvery appearance, whence its name. Doubtless it will make a splendid tree. Small plants are yet expensive, those six to nine inches being 10s.

CERASUS.

C. Laurocerasus. (The Common Laurel.)—A well-known and extensively-planted evergreen, bearing spikes of greenish white flowers. Occasionally it gets cut with frost in exposed situations. Laurel water, made from its leaves, is a deadly poison, though the fruit is eaten by some with impunity. Raised easily by cuttings, layers, or seeds. Very useful in shady situations, under trees, &c. Price 3d.

C. Laurocerasus Colchidis.—A variety of the preceding, with a more dense habit, the foliage also being more pointed. A very interesting and good addition to our evergreen shrubs. Price 1s.

C. Laurocerasus Stricta. (The Upright Common Laurel.)—Of erect growth, forming a pyramidal dark green bush. This should be in all collections of hardy evergreens. Propagated in a similar manner to the above. Price from 9d. to 1s.

C. Lusitanicus. (The Portugal Laurel.)—A fine dark-leaved evergreen, of handsome growth, bearing immense quantities of flowers, which are produced in spikes, and succeeded by small black fruit, greedily eaten by birds. One of the best of plants for shrubberies. It will also make an excellent hedge, clipping well; or it may be trained as a verdant pyramid. Plants, from 6d. to 2s. 6d.

C. Lusitanicus Foxii. (Fox's Portugal Laurel.)—A distinct variety, with narrow, serrated, and thick foliage. Worthy of cultivation. Price 1s. 6d.

C. Lusitanicus Variegata. (The Variegated Portugal Laurel.)—The beauty of this plant is destroyed, as far as the variegation is concerned, when strongly grown. We have two or three varieties. It is grafted on the common sort, and when it retains its character, will be admired by those who have a taste for singular plants.

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C. Ilicifolia. (The Holly-leaved Laurel. (?)—This is a very beautiful evergreen shrub, from Mexico, looking like a Portugal laurel with holly leaves. It is as yet scarce, and though our plant withstood the last winter, there is not yet enough known of it to say positively that it is quite hardy. Doubtless it will graft on the Portugal laurel, on which we hope to try the experiment next spring.

COTONEASTER.

C. Thymifolia. (The Thyme-leaved Cotoneaster.)—A low evergreen shrub, thickly set with small dark shining foliage, with hawthornlike flowers, closely set on the branches, and followed by red berries. As a plant for a low trellis, to train to a wall, or trail on the surface, as a covering, in the foreground of shrubberies, it is especially ornamental. Grafted on some of the strong-growing cotoneasters, the thorn, or pyrus, it makes a very interesting standard. Dwarf plants, 1s.; standards, 2s. 6d.

C. Marginata.—Similar in habit to the preceding, except being larger in all its parts, and having a pubescent edging round each leaf. A distinct and pretty variety. Plants, 9d.

C. Buxifolia, C. Microphylla, C. Rotundifolia.—The description of the two preceding varieties will apply equally to these, differing only in a slight degree in the size of the foliage.

CASTANEA. *(The Spanish Chestnut.)*

C. Variegata. (The Gold-striped Spanish Chestnut.)—This is a strikingly handsome small tree, the foliage being distinctly striped with yellow. It is propagated by grafting on the Spanish chestnut, and forms a nice accompaniment to gold-edged hollies, &c. Price 1s. 6d.

C. Tricolorum. (The Three-coloured Spanish Chestnut.)—A plant of low growth, with narrow furrowed foliage, distinctly marked with yellow, and a portion of the leaves also suffused with pink, giving it a most singular appearance. We believe this variety to be very scarce, never having seen it in any other nursery than our own.

CRYPTOMERIA.

C. Japonica. (The Japanese Cypress.)—A very beautiful and graceful evergreen, stated to be perfectly hardy, though our specimen plant had its leader taken by the frost, three years ago. The situation was low, and the soil heavy and moist, which may possibly account for it. It deserves to be planted extensively, rivalling as it does the Deodar cedar, before alluded to. Plants, 2s. 6d. to 21s.

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CORYLUS. *(The Nut Tree.)*

C. Quercifolia. (The Cut or Oak leaved Nut.)—Remarkable for its laciniated foliage. The fruit is small. From its curiously-formed leaves, it ranks as an ornamental tree. Price 1s.

C. Atropurpurea. (The purple-leaved Nut or Filbert.)—This is a very ornamental small tree, especially when grafted standard high. The foliage is dark purple, and the fruit is contained in purple husks, which makes it desirable for the dessert. Of easy cultivation. We raise it from layers of the previous year's wood. Plants, 1s. each.

CRATÆGUS. *(The Hawthorn.)*

C. Flore Pleno. (The Double White Hawthorn.)—When in full bloom, this variety has a very chaste and massive appearance, the branches being hidden by the profusion of flowers. As they fade, they assume a rosy tint, when many people are inclined to suppose that it is a variety of the Double Pink. We have not heard of any nurseryman working the Double White and Double Pink together, but we have not the slightest doubt that they would tell well as "union trees." The contrast would be beautiful. Standard trees, 1s.

C. Rosea Flore Pleno. (The Double Pink Thorn.)—A most excellent companion for the preceding. The flowers are very double, and of a beautiful lively pink. One on each side a cottage gate, in a shrubbery, or on the verge of a plantation, would have a most excellent effect. They are cheap enough, and very beautiful. For standard trees, four or five feet high, 1s.

C. Punicea. (The New Pink Thorn.)—The flowers of this variety are single, and of the most brilliant deep carmine imaginable. Without exception, one of the most splendid hardy trees grown. It blossoms as freely as the common hawthorn, and is equally sweet-scented. We have seen this variety grafted on the mountain ash, where it flowered most profusely. Standard trees, 1s.

C. Pendula Nova. (The new Weeping Thorn.)—The variety called Queen Mary's, which we also grow, is not so decidedly pendulous as this newly-introduced sort. It must be grafted standard high. The shoots, which are thickly set with sharp thorns, curve very gracefully. A decided acquisition to our weeping trees. Plants, 3s. 6d. each.

C. Pendula Variegata. (The Weeping Variegated Thorn.)—A strikingly beautiful variegation, the shoots as well as foliage being striped with yellow. The branches are very pendulous. We prognosticate a most extensive sale for this pretty tree,

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as it becomes known. Plants, 5s. each. Of course the price for this, as well as the preceding, will become lower in a few years.

NEW TULIPS,

RAISED FROM SEED BY RICHARD HEADLEY, ESQ.

[Continued from page 303.]

Calypso.—Third-row byblœmen. Form good, petals very thick, with a regular broad black feather, stamens pure; but, alas for this very beautiful flower! it has three slight specks on the base; had it not been for this defect, it would have been the finest heavy feathered byblœmen in the world. Broke 1845.

Penelope.—Third-row byblœmen. Form perfect, stout petals, pure bottom and stamens, with a narrow feather of a shining black; the pencillings of the feather delicate, but continuous. A striking and elegant flower; an ornament to the most select bed. Broke 1846.

Leander.—Second-row byblœmen. Delicately feathered with dark violet, fine form, full-sized flower, white very transparent, bottom pure. The only drawback to this beautiful flower is that the summit of the stamens are slightly stained. Broke 1849.

Mademoiselle Alboni.—Third-row byblœmen. Singularly pure and transparent white, with intense black feather, form fine, bottom and stamens purity itself. Altogether a most chaste, and truly an astonishing flower. Broke 1848.

Othello.—First-row byblœmen. Form perfection itself, very thick petals, pure bottom and stamens, shining black grand flame and feather. One of the very best byblœmens. A first-class flower. Broke 1850.

Psyche.—Second-row rose. A most beautiful and attractive flower. Fine form, thick petals, pure bottom and stamens, and very regularly feathered with the most brilliant scarlet. A first-class show flower. Broke 1850.

Regalia.—Third-row rose. A very perfect short cup, leather petals, pure bottom and stamens, heavily flamed with brilliant dark crimson, feather of a darker shade. A most gorgeous and striking flower. Broke 1849.

Aurora.—Fourth-row rose. Of the most perfect form, bottom and stamens perfectly pure, very strong petals, feathered and flamed in the most beautiful manner with bright pink, variegated with markings of a cherry colour. Without any exception, one of the most beautiful roses ever raised. Broke 1849.

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Part XX.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

FRUITS.

THE STANWICK NECTARINE.—Propagated by Mr. Rivers, of Sawbridgeworth. Twenty-four plants were sold on the 15th of May last, for £164 17s. There will be a second lot to dispose of. The proceeds are to be devoted towards building almshouses for aged gardeners. A munificent contribution towards a most praiseworthy object.

HARDY PLANTS.

PÆONIA MOUTAN SALMONEA.—Very distinct. This beautiful tribe of early-flowering hardy shrubs has lately received some decided acquisitions. The above is large and double, the centre petals are blush, tinged with bronze, whilst the exterior ones are salmon-coloured. It is to be regretted that their propagation is not more rapid, that the enjoyment of them might be more generally diffused.

We well recollect being struck with the coloured plate of the Glory Pea (Clianthus punicens). In the *Gardener's Magazine of Botany* is a wood engraving of Clianthus Damperii, stated to be "a beautiful herbaceous perennial." Now we know this is just the kind of thing nine-tenths of the readers of the *Gardener's Magazine* desire; but then, is it hardy? will it stand the midlands? It is from New Holland, and we fear that it will be too tender.

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The following excellent roses have been strongly recommended to us by a first-rate amateur:—

Paul Ricaut has thick and fine foliage. On its own root, of strong and vigorous growth; the flowers beautiful crimson; a splendid hybrid Bourbon.

Celina Dubos, a damask perpetual, is a great novelty. It is said to be a sport from Rose du Roi, coming a pale flesh colour, and continuing to retain its character.

Caroline de Sansal.—Hybrid perpetual, of excellent form, delicate peach colour, and first-rate.

Duchess de Montpensier—Even of better form than the preceding, pink, and very desirable.

Jean d'Arc.—To the excellency as well as novelty of this beautiful cream-coloured hybrid perpetual we can bear willing testimony. With us, during the past summer, it was very striking.

Comte Brobinsky.—Of dwarf habit, and well adapted for flower beds; a splendid scarlet; ought to be extensively cultivated.

Aurore de Guide.—A splendid new shaded variety of Bourbon; bright pink and violet; extra.

Sully.—One of those deep rich purple Bourbons not often seen. It is of stout habit, and very good.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

CULTURE OF THE PANSY,

FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

BY MR. C. TURNER, ROYAL NURSERY, SLOUGH.

NOVEMBER and December is a quiet time with pansies. Those in pots should not be exposed to heavy rain; and those that have a number of small glasses will do well to place them over their best plants, during a very wet time. Tilt the glasses on one side with a small flower pot, to prevent the plants from drawing.

THE BEST PANSIES SHOWN AT HAMMERSMITH.

THE annexed list was inserted in the *Florist*, by Mr. John Edwards, Wace Cottage, Holloway, and Mr.

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Beck having kindly given us permission to copy anything we fancy will be of use to our readers, and as we think, to those who are pansy growers, it will be of service as a guide for them in making their selection, we extract it:—

WHITE-GROUND VARIETIES.—Queen of England (Fellowes), Almanzor (Le Messuriers), Helen (Hunt), Mrs. Beck (Turner), Miss Thompson (Thompson), Duchess of Rutland (Thompson), Penelope (Thompson), Caroline (Thompson), Climax (Bell), Sir R. Peel (Bragg) very fine, Princess (Turner), Ariadne (Cook), Mrs. Hamilton (Naysmith).

YELLOW OR STRAW-GROUND VARIETIES.—Rubens (Turner), Constellation (Thompson), Duke of Norfolk (Bell), Addison (Turner), Inventa (Hooper), Mrs. Bragg (Bragg), Example (Turner), Bellona (Hooper), Miss Edwards (Turner), Supreme (Youell), Leader (Hooper), Lady Franklin (Thompson), Viceroy (Turner), Mrs. Beck (Turner).

WHITE SELFS.—Of these there was nothing very remarkable. Snowflake (Thompson) has shape, but is rough on the edge; and White Sergeant was much mottled.

YELLOW SELFS.—Widnall's Ophir is a good early yellow, but degenerates as the season advances; Lane's Emma.

DARK SELFS.—Hunt's Disraeli, Hall's Rainbow, Scotcher's Lucy Neal, Sambo.

Mr. Edwards further states, that a selection of fair grown flowers from this list would combine much excellence, and would probably be the very best that a beginner could start with.

Seeing in the *Midland Florist*, vol. 2, page 6, an article on raising potatoes from seed, I procured some balls, and this year, having rubbed out the seed, which had remained in the seed vessels all the winter, I sowed it in the hotbed, in March; and when the plants were about six weeks old, I planted them out a foot apart, in the usual manner, and there left them till the beginning of September. I then got them up, and to my surprise, the tubers were much larger than I anticipated—some as large as hen eggs, and nearly all larger than marbles.—A LOVER OF A GOOD POTATO.

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REVIEW.

BECK'S FLORIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY, No. 34.

ON opening the present number, we were glad to find portraits of the two new carnations, *Jenny Lind* (C.B.) and *Justice Shallow* (S.F.), more than usually truthful delineations, for we have often found flowers fall somewhat short of their representation, when we have bloomed them; but these are an exception to the rule. The article, "My Fern Garden," we read with much interest; but with a selfish feeling, by the by, for we are about trying our hand on fern culture, and shall be glad of any contribution that our friends can make. We were half inclined to run the pen through the latter part of the last sentence, but on second consideration, we asked ourselves the question, Of what use are friends? We have lately become tenant of a very noted spot, near Nottingham, situated at the foot of the hill on which our house stands, and called "St. Ann's Well." Here is a spring of intense coldness, which supplies a very antiquated bath, with considerable space roofed over; and here we have some idea of erecting rockwork, and planting it with ferns. A more suitable place for hardy and half hardy ferns and mosses we have seldom seen. Perhaps there are many readers of the *Midland Florist* who have suitable situations; if so, Alpha's communications, in the pages of the *Florist*, will be read with pleasure.

There is also a nice gossiping "Essay on Flowers;" and a "Visit to Kew Gardens, by Rail direct," which puts us in mind of the palm stove there, as well as the noble erections at Chatsworth, where we were so much delighted during the past summer. Shall these beautiful places be the pioneers of an eighth wonder of the world, in the building for the exhibition of 1851? Shall it be converted into a gigantic tropical garden?—a realization of our fondest hopes!

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and a consummation which every metropolitan, as well as every provincial, who has any love for nature in her most gorgeous forms, would, we imagine, wish to see carried out. Here we stop, for we find we are getting *along*, as the Americans say, too fast. "The Ladies' Paper" is more to our mind than common—*practically useful*. In fact, we have conned over this number twice or thrice, a thing we can seldom find time to do, but it deserves it.

Part III.

QUERIES.

Is ivy detrimental to trees? I have some fine specimens of elm and fir, on which the ivy grows amazingly. I fear, by clothing the trunks, some injury may be done; still I do not like to destroy it. R. F.

I have an orchard, the trees of which are thickly covered with moss. How is this to be remedied? A reply in your next number will oblige. R. MASON.

In various lists of polyanthuses, I see some have aliases. Can you tell me how this is? why should one sort have two names? and why is it done? This is to me somewhat of a mystery. An answer will be esteemed by yours truly,

A YOUNG FLORIST.

Can you give me any information as to what would be the best thing to absorb urine, in order to be able to apply it as manure to the growing crops in the garden?

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CAN CURRANTS BE MUCH IMPROVED?—In reply to W. S. we must say, certainly, if the requisite attention is given to saving and sowing the seeds from the finest fruit. There are varieties called the Black-fruited Red, the White Black, and the Variegated. We have grown the whole of them. They are, however, more curious than useful.

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THE BEST CELERY.—Cole's Dwarf Red has been grown here very good, crisp, sweet, and excellent. Seymour's Superb White, and Jones's Red, are also highly esteemed. Our correspondent, James Mason, cannot have better sorts than these.

ALLOTMENTS.—WM. THOMPSON.—We are now planting some land with a view to profit. The fruit trees we have put in are pyramids, branching from the bottom. We have planted rows of trees, east and west, five yards apart. One of new plums (four trees of a sort), namely, Huling's Superb, Reine Claude de Bavey, Fellemberg, Smith's Orleans, Chapman's Prince of Wales, &c.; another row is Hessel pears: and the other Shropshire damsons, or, as they are called here, damascenes. The distance between the rows is sixteen yards. Between each tree are two Haughton Castle currants, to occupy the space till the fruit trees get sufficiently large; and a space four feet wide, the whole length of the row, is planted with strawberries, that no ground may be lost. These will be dug in, after a few years. Between the rows of trees, we purpose growing gooseberries, raspberries, rhubarb, &c. We fancy this will pay, near large towns, such as Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, &c. Of course, parties holding allotments would cultivate vegetables between the rows of trees, which, as they grow up, will afford much shelter to growing crops. In our next volume, we shall endeavour to give our readers the best hints we can on the management of their allotments.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR NOVEMBER.

THE chief business now to be done in fruit and kitchen gardens is pruning and nailing trees. *Gooseberries*, for instance, especially in the case of large over-grown trees, should be well thinned, by removing some of the larger branches, from where they spring from the main stem. This will allow more air, and the fruit will consequently be finer and better flavoured. The reason why gooseberry bushes get to be such a mass of shoots, not only impervious to the sun, but also rendering the operation of gathering the fruit one of considerable difficulty, is the constant shortening the shoots, without attending to thinning the branches.

Plantations of *currants*, *apples*, *pears*, &c. should now be made, vacant spaces on walls filled up, and the soil manured, and winter dug. In some gardens, the shoots of *peaches*, *nectar-*

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ines, and *apricots* are unfastened from the wall. This, where trouble and time is not a serious obstacle, is very beneficial to the trees.

Orchard trees may be advantageously pruned at this season. Never chop off branches with a hatchet, but let them be taken cleanly off with a saw. Many thus suffer severely, from the large branches decaying. Downing, in his *Fruits of America*, gives the following excellent composition for wounds made in pruning:—"Take a quart of alcohol, and dissolve in it as much gum shellac as will make a liquid the consistency of paint, apply this to the wound with a common painter's brush, always paring the wound smoothly first with a knife." The liquid becomes perfectly hard, adheres closely, excludes the air entirely, and is affected by no change of weather; while at the same time its thinness offers no resistance to the lip of new bark, that gradually closes over the wound. If the composition is kept in a well-corked bottle, sufficiently wide-mouthed to admit the brush, it will always be ready for use, and suited to the want of the moment.

FLOWER GARDEN.

This is the season for planting *hyacinths*. Always choose bulbs that are conical; they flower the best. We would advise our readers to plant some in nice clean moss. Wedge the pot full, or nearly so, then place the bulb on it, packing the moss tightly round. They will be better without water, till they have made considerable growth.

Salvias, *fuchsias*, &c. in the open ground, should be covered several inches with light porous soil. Perhaps a small wicker-basket placed over them, and covered with moss, would be an effectual preservative.

Many plants in the open border should be taken up; such as *scarlet geraniums*, and *calceolarias*. If kept tolerably dry, they may be preserved through the winter, and will make famous plants for turning out next spring. *Dahlia seed*, and the pods of *lilium lancifolium*, and that of any other autumnal flowering plant it is desirable to save, should now be harvested.

Polyanthuses in frames require but little protection, except in very severe or wet weather. Remove any flowers which may appear at this season.

Tulips.—Every day these bulbs are out of the ground, it is so much the worse for them. If the beds have been protected from wet previous to planting, it will be better; and after they are in the ground, the same protection, for a few weeks, will be advisable.

Keep *auriculas* tolerably dry; and *pink* and *pansy beds* clean; these last ought now to be well established. The harvesting of sods, leaves, cow-manure, &c. ought not to be lost sight of, but heaps got together whenever opportunity serves.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

GREAT NORTH CHESHIRE TULIP SHOW,

At the Sportsman's Inn, Hyde, June 1.

Judges.—Mr. John Slater, Cheetham-hill; Mr. Robt. Taylor, Gladwick; and Mr. Wm. Bentley, Royton, near Oldham.

A silver cup, value £5 5s., was awarded to Mr. Thomas Leech, for the best pan of rectified flowers, viz., Charles X., Albion, Baguet, Bacchus, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale.

Best Pan of Breeders.—Greswood's Grace Darling, Princess Royal, and John Wild's Seedling, Wm. Peacock, Esq.

Maiden Prize.—Incomparable, J. Shepley.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., H. Parsonage.
2 Surpass Catafalque, T. Leech.
3 Polyphemus, J. Peacock.
4 Lord Lilford, ditto.
5 Sir Sidney Smith, J. Sidley.
6 Rufus, H. Parsonage.
7 Waterloo, J. Peacock.
8 Amazon, ditto.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Sans Joe, J. Sidley.
2 Paul Pry, J. Massey.
3 Albion, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Lustre, T. Thorniley.
5 Charles X., W. Peacock, Esq.
6 Polyphemus, T. Leech.
7 Lord Milton, J. Sidley.
8 Lacantique, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Baguet, T. Thorniley.
3 Washington, J. Sidley.
4 Sportsman, J. Massey.
5 Gibbons's, ditto.
6 Siam, S. Ardern.
7 Incomparable, J. Taylor, Esq.
8 Angelina, W. Batty.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Incomparable, W. Peacock.
2 Countess Harrington, J. Peacock.
3 Magnus, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Bacchus, S. Ardern.
5 Buckley's Flora, W. Peacock.
6 Grotius, J. Taylor.
7 Siam, W. Bowker.
8 Bienfait, H. Parsonage.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 Lady Crewe, T. Thorniley.
3 Jupiter, J. Sidley.
4 Newcastle, W. Peacock, Esq.
5 Comte, J. Turner, Esq.
6 Seedling No. 1, J. Peacock.
7 Walworth, H. Parsonage.
8 Unknown, W. Batty.

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 Triomphe Royale, J. Sidley.
3 Unique, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Vesta, J. Sidley.
5 Vandikken, ditto.
6 Rose Steria, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Lord Hill, T. Thorniley.
8 Gibbons's Rose, J. Massey.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Hamilton, W. Peacock.
2 Sunbeam, ditto.
3 Capt. Sleigh, J. Peacock.
4 Cyclops, B. Heigh.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Gibbons's, J. Massey.
2 Britannia, B. Heigh.
3 Seedling, J. Massey.
4 Orleans, J. Peacock.

Rose Breeders.

1 Wild's Seedling, W. Peacock.
2 Lady Stanley, J. Sidley.
3 Amelia, J. Peacock.
4 Anastasia, T. Leech.

Selfs.

Min d'Or, J. Turner, Esq.
White Flag, J. Sidley.

TULIP SHOW

At the house of Thomas Moss, Grapes Inn, Church-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, June 5.

Judges.—Abraham Leech, Wm. Chadwick, and Thomas Jackson.

Premier Feathered.—Charles X., J. Haigh.
Premier Flamed.—Triomphe Royale, W. Matley.
Maiden Prizes.—1. Surpass Catafalque, S. Garside. 2. Charles X.,

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Hilton. 3. Bienfait, J. Buckley. 4. Newcastle, R. Garside. 5. Albion, R. Whitaker.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., J. Haigh.
2 Sir Sidney Smith, R. Taylor.
3 Trafalgar, ditto.
4 Surpass Catafalque, T. Moss.
5 Firebrand, S. Garside.
6 Rising Sun, A. Tomlinson.
7 Royal Gem, J. Haigh.
8 Lord Lilford, R. Taylor.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Albion, W. Matley.
2 Polyphemus, S. Cock.
3 Lustre, S. Cock, sen.
4 Charles X., W. Matley.
5 Royal Gem, ditto.
6 Cato, J. Buckley.
7 Sir Sidney Smith, R. Taylor.
8 Surpass Catafalque, J. Moss.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Incomparable, J. Lunn.
2 Baguet, S. Cock.
3 Louis XVI, J. Lunn.
4 Washington, S. Cock, sen.
5 Bienfait, J. Buckley.
6 Violet Amiable, S. Cock.
7 Ambassador, W. Matley.
8 Grotius, S. Cock.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, S. Cock.
2 Alexander Magnus, ditto.
3 Ashtonian, S. Cock, sen.
4 Grotius, R. Whitaker.
5 La Belle Narene, R. Taylor.
6 Violet Wallers, S. Cock.
7 Roi de Siam, R. Whitaker.
8 Sable Monarch, W. Matley.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, A. Tomlinson.
2 Lady Crewe, S. Cock, sen.
3 Newcastle, R. Garside.
4 Dolittle, J. Moss.
5 Comte, W. Matley.
6 Walworth, R. Taylor.
7 Andromeda, J. Moss.
8 Lady Grey, W. Matley.

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, W. Matley.
2 Rose Vesta, J. Lunn.
3 Rose Unique, T. Moss.
4 La Vandikken, J. Haigh.
5 Aglaia, S. Cock.
6 Lord Hill, R. Taylor.
7 Guerre, J. Buckley.
8 Lady Crewe, J. Moss.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Hamilton, S. Cock.
2 Polyphemus, R. Garside.
3 Surpass Catafalque, J. Haigh.
4 Cato, R. Whitaker.
5 Sunbeam, J. Moss.
6 Unknown, R. Whitaker.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling No. 3, B. Haigh.
2 Princess Royal, S. Cock.
3 Maid of Athens, R. Whitaker.
4 Sir Roger de Coverley, B. Haigh.
5 Britannia, ditto.
6 Unknown, S. Garside.

Rose Breeders.

1 Newcastle, S. Garside.
2 Lord Derby, W. Matley.
3 Lady Grey, S Cock.
4 Lady Crewe, R. Whitaker.
5 Arletta, S. Cock.
6 Glaphra, S. Cock, sen

Selfs.

Min d'Or, Thomas Moss.
White Perfection, S. Cock, sen.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At the Town Hall, June 31.

TULIPS.

Judges.—Mr. Wm. Alsop, of Stockport; Mr. Luke Ashmole, Middleton; and Mr. R. Taylor, Oldham.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Matley.
2 Surpass Catafalque, S. Cock.
3 Sir Sidney Smith, ditto.
4 Mayor of Manchester, B. Haigh.
5 Catafalque, A. Tomlinson.
6 Lacantique, J. Peacock, Esq.
7 Sans Joe, S. Cock.
8 Surpass Optimus, S. Cock, sen.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Sans Joe, J. Haigh.
2 Lustre, W. Matley.
3 Albion, ditto.
4 Charles X., T. Leech.
5 Charbonnier, W. Matley.
6 Paul Pry, W. Matley.
7 Shakspere, W. Peacock, Esq.
8 High Carloss, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero, T. Leech.
2 Beauty, S. Cock.
3 Bienfait, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Baguet, J. Naylor.
5 Violet Amiable, S. Cock.
6 Washington, J. Naylor.
7 La Belle Narene, W. Peacock.
8 Queen of Violets, J. Naylor.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bacchus, W. Matley.
2 Incomparable, S. Cock.

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3 Roi de Siam, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Baguet, W. Matley.
5 Bienfait, ditto.
6 Czarinne, S. Cock.
7 Queen Charlotte, W. Matley.
8 Democrat, S. Cock.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, A. Tomlinson.
2 Comte de Vergennes, S. Cock, sen.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Haigh.
4 Duchess of Newcastle, S. Cock, sen.
5 Unknown, J. Peacock, Esq.
6 Bacchus, S. Cock.
7 Village Queen, W. Peacock, Esq.
8 Andromeda, J. Wild.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, B. Haigh.
2 Aglaia, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 La Vandikken, J. Peacock, Esq.
4 Triomphe Royale, B. Haigh.
5 Ponceau Brilliant, W, Peacock, Esq.
6 Vesta, T. Leech.
7 Vanqueur, S. Cock.
8 Andromeda, J. Peacock, Esq.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, J. Naylor.
2 Telemachus, W. Matley.
3 Earl of Radnor, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Cato, S. Cock.
5 Truth, J. Naylor.
6 Beauty of Dovedale, J. Peacock, Esq.
7 Gibbons's, J. Taylor.
8 Andrew Marvel, J. Wild.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Sancta Sophia, S. Cock.
2 Sarah, T. Leech.
3 Sir H. Pottinger, S. Cock.
4 Roland, ditto.
5 Cataline, J. Peacock, Esq.
6 Seedling, S. Cock.
7 Van Amburgh, J. Naylor.
8 No. 18, J. Peacock, Esq.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Stanley, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 King of Scarlets, ditto.
3 Duchess of Newcastle, S. Cock.
4 Lady Crewe, T. Leech.
5 Seedling, ditto.
7 Seedling, W. Matley.
8 Andromeda, S. Cock.

Selfs

White Flag, J. Muir.
Min d'Or, J. Haigh.

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. D. Asquith, Broad Tree Inn, Ovenden, near Halifax.

Premier Prizes.—1. Grand Duke, J. Fletcher. 2. Triomphe Royale, J Rushworth. 3. Donzelle, G. Baildon.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Surpass Catafalque, D. Asquith,
2 Waterloo, G. Baildon.
3 Sir R. Peel (seedling), D. Asquith.
4 Bolivar, ditto.
5 Charles, ditto.
6 Crown Prince, J. Fletcher.
7 Lacantique, ditto.
8 Khouli Khan, ditto.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Abercrombie, J. Rushworth.
2 Charbonnier, D. Asquith.
3 Polyphemus, ditto.
4 Surpass Catafalque, J. Chapman.
5 Lord Brougham, J. Fletcher.
6 Charles, J. Chapman.
7 Rufus, J. Rushworth.
8 Cato, D. Asquith.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, D. Asquith.
2 Bell's Violet, ditto.
3 Saddler, ditto.
4 Washington, ditto.
5 Queen of May, J. Bairstow.
6 Duc de Bordeaux, G. Baildon.
7 Grand Cid, D. Asquith.
8 Unknown, J. Chapman.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, J. Fletcher.
2 Grand Cid, J. Rushworth.
3 Voerhelm's, J. Fletcher.
4 Bienfait, ditto.
5 Roi de Siam, J. Rushworth.
6 Reid's Prince Albert, G. Baildon.
7 Grand Cid, D. Asquith.
8 Czarinne, G. Baildon.

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, J. Rushworth.
2 Comet, J. Bairstow.
3 Triomphe Royale, J. Chapman.
4 Unknown, J. Fletcher.
5 Walworth, J. Chapman.
6 Lady Crewe, G. Baildon.
7 Chellaston, J. Fletcher.
8 Read's 39, J. Bairstow.

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Bairstow.
2 Triomphe Royale, J. Rushworth.
3 Lord Hill, G. Baildon.
4 Vesta, J. Bairstow.
5 Walworth, J. Chapman.
6 Unknown, D. Asquith.
7 Count, J. Rushworth.
8 Aglaia, J. Fletcher.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, J. Chapman.
2 Catafalque, D. Asquith.
3 Seedling, J. Fletcher.
4 Ditto, J. Bairstow.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Maid of Orleans, J. Fletcher.
2 Baguet, D. Asquith.
3 Gibbons's No. 12, G. Baildon.
4 Unknown, D. Asquith.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Middleton, J. Fletcher.
2 Lady Crewe, D. Asquith.
3 Glaphra, J. Fletcher.

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4 Newcastle, D. Asquith.
Selfs.
1 Flag, J. Rushworth.

2 Cotherstone, J. Chapman.
3 Min d'Or, J. Rushworth.
4 Lord Morpeth, J. Bairstow.

OXFORD FLORAL SOCIETY.

At the annual pink show, held on the 24th of June, at the Cockpit, the judges (Messrs. Colcutt and Hobbes), after a minute inspection of the different stands, awarded the prizes as under :—

1st, to Mr. Thomas Looker, for Looker's Countess of Waldegrave, Smith's Diana, Looker's Ariel, Smith's Whipper-in, White's Winchester Rival, Harris's King of Purples, Costar's Alfred Morrison. 2nd, to Mr. W. Hastings, for Looker's Warner Henly, Esq., Hardstone's Albert, Kerr's Harriet, Sharp's William Cobbett, Harris's King of Purples, Smith's Diana, Smith's Whipper-in. 3rd, Mrs. J. Hastings, for Harris's King of Purples, Looker's Warner Henly, Esq., Kerr's Harriet, Smith's Diana, and three seedlings. 4th, to Mr. G. Davis, for Smith's Diana, Wilmore's Laura, King of Purples, Kirtland's Albert, Kerr's Harriet, Harris's Duchess of Kent, Smith's Whipper-in. 5th, to Mr. D. Roberts, for Looker's Duchess of Marlborough, Kerr's Harriett, Duchess of Kent, King's Henry King, Young's XX, King of the Purples, Smith's Diana. 6th, to Mr. H. Gammon, for Henbury's Rubens, King of the Purples. Kerr's Harriett, Duchess of Kent, Smith's Whipper-in, Creed's President, Smith's Diana. 7th, to Mr. H. Bell, for Looker's Jane Sarah, Harris's King of Purples, Bell's Fire King, Willmore's Laura, Bell's Benjamin, Bell's Caroline. 8th, to Mr. Joseph Bates, for Smith's Whipper-in, King of Purples, Kirtland's Albert, Smith's Diana, Kerr's Harriet, Duchess of Kent, Read's Mary Ann.

1st seedling prize, to Mr. T. Looker, for Looker's Ariel.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. Wm. Warrington's, Duke of Wellington Inn, Eastwood Vale, Shelton, July 6.

Judges.—Mr. G. Henshall, Hanley; and Mr. S. Malkin, Shelton.

Purple-laced.
Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, H. Bradshaw.
1 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, W. Griffiths.
2 Bradshaw's Greensides, R. Moorley.
3 Unknown, H. Bradshaw.
4 Jones's Huntsman, W. Griffiths.
5 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, H. Bradshaw.
6 Hand's Pilot, ditto.

Red-laced.
Premier.—Seedling, Dorothy, R. Moorley.
1 Lee's Joseph Sturge, H. Bradshaw.
2 Seedling, Dorothy, R. Moorley.
3 Sir William, W. Griffiths.
4 Seedling, ditto.
5 Cook's Joseph Hume, H. Bradshaw.
6 Seedling, R. Moorley.

Black and White.
Premier.—Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths.
1 Smith's White Rose, W. Griffiths.
2 Kay's Mary, H. Bradshaw.
3 Baker's Overall, R. Moorley.
4 Smith's White Rose, W. Griffiths.
5 Unknown, H. Bradshaw.
6 Parry's Union, ditto.

WALTON-LE-DALE AMATEUR PINK SHOW,

At the Bridge Inn, Walton, July 6.

Best Stand of Six.—Beauty of Blackburn, seedling, Mango, Duke of St. Albans, seedling, and Joseph Sturge, R. Teebay.
Best Stand of Three.—Kay's Mary, Huntsman, and Sturge, H. Smith.
Best Pink.—Miss Jessop, Gregson.

Purple-laced.
1 Mango, H. Smith.
2 Greensides, R. Teebay.
3 Black King, J. Norris.
4 Duke of St. Albans, P. Gregson.
5 Thunderer, R. Teebay.
6 Black Boy, ditto.

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, R. Teebay.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Seedling, J. Norris.
4 Susanna, R. Teebay.
5 Seedling, ditto.
6 Seedling, J. Norris.

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Black and White.
1 Beauty of Blackburn, J. Norris.
2 Kay's Mary, H. Smith.
3 Seedling, R. Teebay.
4 Beauty of Clayton, T. Gregson.
5 Blackeyed Susan, J. Norris.
6 Broom Girl, ditto.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. Hodgson's, Lomax Arms Inn, Great Harwood, July 6.

Premier Prize.—Kay's Mary, Mr. Barnes.

Purple-laced.
1 Mango, Mr. Ashworth.
2 Huntsman, Mr. Chippendale.
3 Seedling No. 2, ditto.
4 Greensides, ditto.
5 Black Joke, ditto.
6 Blackeyed Susan, ditto.
7 Attraction, Mr. Barnes.

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, Mr. Chippendale.
2 Dr. Hepworth, ditto.
3 Susanna (Etchell's), Mr. Whalley.
4 Prudence, Mr. Ashworth.
5 Joseph Hume, Mr. Charnley.
6 Victoria, Mr. Chippendale.
7 Lady Antrobus, ditto.

Black and White.
1 Kay's Mary, Mr. Charnley.
2 Margaret, Mr. Whalley.
3 Blackeyed Susan, ditto.
4 Overall, Mr. Chippendale
5 Broom Girl, Mr. Whalley.
6 Jenny Lind (Marris), Mr. Chippendale
7 Beauty of Blackburn, ditto.

WEST RIDING CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY,

At the Crown and Cushion Inn, Dewsbury, Monday, July the 8th.

PINKS.

Premier Prize,—Kay's Mary, M. Tattersall, Bradford.

Purple-laced.
1 Jones's Huntsman, I. Steel.
2 Mrs. Drake, W. Rhodes.
3 Steel's Freedom, I. Smith.
4 Mrs. Brandline, I. Clayton.
5 Lady Milner, M. Tattersall.
6 Greensides, W. Parker.
7 Dr. Halley, D. Firth.
8 Pilgrim, I. Steel.

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, M. Tattersall.
2 Mary Jane (seedling), I. Steel.
3 Louis Tasso, W. Rhodes.
4 Susanna, I. Smith.
5 Dr. Hepworth, I. Normington.
6 Hope (seedling), I. Steel.
7 Dr. Daubeny, W. Parker.
8 Surplice, D. Firth.

Black and White.
1 Kay's Mary, M. Tattersall.
2 Snowball, W. Rhodes.
3 Queen of Whites (seedling), I. Steel.
4 Beauty of Blackburn, I. Smith.
5 Virgin Queen, I. Clayton.
6 Wilman's Elizabeth, I. Normington.
7 Rushton's Superior, Parker.
8 Clayton-le-Moor, D. Firth.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE PINK SHOW,

Open to all England, at Mr. John Grundy's, Spread Eagle Inn, Stamford-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, July 8.

Pans of Three.—1. Huntsman, Susanna, Superior, R. Fitton. 2. Huntsman, Sturge, Mary, R. Whittaker. 3. Mango, Sturge, Mary, J. Knott. 4. Duke, Sturge, Boldhaughton, J. Grundy. 5. Duke, Sturge, Boldhaughton, J. Leigh. 6. Mango, Sturge, Mary, S. Garsides.

Purple-laced.
1 Huntsman, R. Whittaker.
2 Duke, ditto.
3 Mango, Henry Brown.
4 Club Ace, J. Leigh.
5 Coronation, R. Whittaker.
6 Duke of Devonshire, J. Leigh.
7 Albion, J. Wild.
8 Seedling, Henry Marland.

Red-laced.
1 Sturge, James Wild.
2 Adam Smith, J. Knutt.
3 Dr. Hepworth, J. Leigh.
4 Sir William, J. Knutt.
5 Susanna, Robert Whittaker.
6 Seedling, Alfred Knutt.
7 Little Wonder, H. Marland.
8 Miss Guy, R. Fitton.

Black and White.
1 Blackeyed Susan, R. Fitton.
2 Virgin Queen, ditto.
3 Superior, J. Leigh.
4 Kay's Mary, G. Davis.
5 Boldhaughton, R. Whittaker.
6 Beauty of Home, W. Mathley.
7 Miss Jessop, A. Knutt.
8 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, J. Knott.

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At the Town Hall, Manchester, Wednesday, July 10.

PINKS.

Purple-laced.

1 Huntsman, M. Partington.
2 Duke St. Albans, R. Whittaker, Esq.
3 Mango, W. Taylor.
4 Greensides, R. Ashworth.
5 Coronation, R. Whittaker, Esq.
6 Professor, J. Bardsley.
7 Albion, J. Wild.
8 Beauty of Rochdale, ditto.

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, J. Taylor.
2 Susanna, J. Wild.
3 Little Wonder, R. Whittaker, Esq.
4 Willmer's Laura, W. Taylor.
5 Rachel, J. Ashton.
6 Dr. Hepworth, J. Heap.
7 Criterion, M. Partington.
8 Republican, J. Clegg.

Black and Whites.

1 Miss Jessop, R. Whittaker, Esq.
2 Blackeyed Susan, J. Clegg.
3 Kay's Mary, J. Bardsley.
4 Lady Boldhaughton, R. Whittaker, Esq.
5 Beauty of Home, R. Ashworth.
6 Snowball, R. Whittaker, Esq.
7 Beauty of Blackburn, M. Partington.
8 Virgin Queen, R. Ashworth.

RANUNCULUSES.

Light Selfs.

1 Unknown, J. Taylor.
2 Ditto, J. Ashton.
3 White Swan, W. Butterworth.
4 Unknown, J. Ashton.

Dark Selfs.

1 Unknown, W. Butterworth.
2 Ditto, S. Cocks.
3 Ditto, J. Newton.
4 Coffee Blural, J. Taylor.

Striped.

1 Osiris, J. Morton.
2 Unknown, J. Ashton.
3 Ditto, S. Cocks.
4 Ditto, J. Taylor.

Edged or Spotted.

1 Julius, W. Butterworth.
2 Prince of Wurtemburg, J. Morton.
3 Unknown, J. Lees, Esq.
4 Benjamin, J. Morton.

Purple and Grey.

1 Unknown, S. Cocks.
2 Ditto, J. Taylor.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Caffe Royal, J. Taylor.

Crimson and Rose.

1 Bishop Heber, J. Ashton.
2 Unknown, ditto.
3 Ditto, J. Lees.
4 Ditto, J. Morton.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mrs. Rawsthorne, the George and Dragon Inn, July 10.

Purple-laced.

1 Duke of St. Albans, J. Yates.
2 Huntsman, R. Yates.
3 Greensides, J. Yates.
4 Mango, J. Morris.
5 Solon, J. Turner.
6 Thunderer, J. Morris.
7 William Tell, J. Ashton.
8 Beauty of Rochdale, J. Yates.
9 Defiance, H. Yates.
10 Suwarrow, J. Yates.

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, J. Turner.
2 Elizabeth, J. Ashton.
3 Little Wonder, ditto.
4 Susanna, J. Turner.
5 Unknown, J. Yates.
6 Unknown, J. Ashton.
7 Rachel, J. Yates.
8 Unknown, J. Ashton.
9 Criterion, R. Berry.
10 Dr. Hepworth, J. Turner.

Black and White.

1 Beauty of Clayton, J. Turner.
2 Kay's Mary, ditto.
3 Snowball, J. Ashton.
4 Broom Girl, J. Morris.
5 Miss Jessop, J. Turner.
6 White Rock, J. Yates.
7 Blackeyed Susan, R. Yates.
8 Fair Ellen, J. Turner.
9 Standard, J. Morris.
10 Alice Hawthorn, J. Turner.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. E. Barker's, Joiners' Arms, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 13.

Judges—Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch, and Mr. E. Harding, Stoke road.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Blackeyed Susan, D. Brown.
1 Blackeyed Susan, D. Brown.
2 Hand's Pilot, H. Eaton.
3 Jones's Huntsman, E. Barker.
4 Taylor's Mango, H. Eaton.
5 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, W. Griffiths.
6 Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, D. Brown.
7 Faulkner's Perfection, W. Griffiths.
8 Unknown, H. Eaton.

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Red-laced.

Premier.—Joseph Sturge, D. Brown.
1 Mead's Susanna, D. Brown.
2 Lee's Joseph Sturge, ditto.
3 Brundret's Sir William, T. Whitehouse.
4 Louis Tasso, E. Barker.
5 Seedling, Dorothy, R. Moorley.
6 Slater's Lady Antrobus, W. Griffiths.
7 Moorley's Seedling, Martha Ann, do.
8 Tricket's Adam Smith, T. Whitehouse.

Black and White.

Premier.—Kay's Mary, T. Whitehouse.
1 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, W. Griffiths.
2 Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, T. Whitehouse.
3 Kay's Mary, H. Eaton.
4 Millman's Lillia, E. Barker.
5 Parry's Union, H. Eaton.
6 Beauty of Home, D. Brown.
7 Unknown, D. Brown.
8 Rawsthorne's Superior, H. Eaton.

BRADFORD FLORAL SOCIETY,

July 15.

PINKS.

Premier.—Joseph Sturge, D. Firth.

Purple-laced.

1 Pilgrim, D. Greenough.
2 Dr. Halley, J. Speak.
3 Jones's Huntsman, D. Firth.
4 Greensides, ditto.
5 Dale's Beauty, S. Normington.
6 Suwarrow, ditto.
7 Solon, ditto.
8 Clark's Defiance, W. Clark.

Red-laced.

1 Cant's Criterion, D. Firth.
2 Hill's Favourite, T. Clayton.
3 Adam Smith, S. Normington.
4 Miss Mary, ditto.
5 Joseph Sturge, S Normington.
6 Little Wonder, T. Clayton.
7 Eldrige's Pearl, ditto.
8 Louis Tasso, D. Firth.

Black and White.

1 Miss Jessop, S. Normington.
2 Virgin Queen, ditto.
3 Lady Boldhaughton, ditto.
4 Kay's Mary, ditto.
5 Superior, ditto.
6 Lady Frost, ditto.
7 Clark's Heroine, J. Speak.
8 White Rock, D. Greenough.

PINK SHOW,

At the Bridge Tavern, Bowling, near Bradford, July 22.

Premier prize.—Greensides, D. Firth.

Purple laced.

1 Pilgrim, D. Greenough.
2 Dr. Halley, J. Speak.
3 Huntsman, D. Firth.
4 Greensides, ditto.
5 Ayrdale Beauty, J. Smith.
6 Beauty of Rochdale, M. Tattersall.
7 Clark's Defiance, D. Firth.
8 Lady Milner, J. Speak.

Red-laced.

1 Cant's Criterion, W. Parker.
2 Joseph Sturge, J. Smith.
3 Dr. Hepworth, W. Parker.
4 Adam Smith, D. Firth.
5 Little Wonder, D. Firth.
6 Louis Tasso, J. Smith.
7 Hill's Favourite, D. Firth.
8 Coronation, J. Smith.

Black and White.

1 Kay's Mary, D. Firth.
2 Miss Jessop, ditto.
3 Smith's White Rock, D. Greenough.
4 Virgin Queen, J. Speak.
5 Clark's Heroine, ditto.
6 Mountain of Snow, J. Smith.
7 Parry's Union, ditto.
8 Snowball, ditto.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the George Hotel, Wednesday, July 24.

CARNATIONS.

Six blooms.—1. Holliday's Lord Rancliffe, Easom's Admiral Curzon, Slater's Gladiator, Millwood's Premier (extra fine), Tomlin's Brisies, and Hardwick's Firebrand, B. Vialls. 2. Easom's Admiral Curzon and British Hero, Holmes's Count Pauline, Hudson's Miss Thornton, Barringer's Premier, and Wilson's William IV., J. Carter. 3. Hale's Prince Albert, Easom's Admiral Curzon, Ely's Lord Milton, Hudson's Miss Thornton, and Hardwick's Firebrand, W. Bullock.

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Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Holliday's Lord Rancliffe, S. Haddon.
2 Ely's Lord Pollington, J. Macquire.
3 Hale's Prince Albert, W. Bullock.
Crimson, or Pink and Purple Bizarres.
1 Holme's Count Pauline, S. Haddon.
2 Marris's Thos. Hood, B. Vialls.
3 Ely's Duke of Bedford, J. Carter.
Scarlet Flakes.
1 Hardwick's Firebrand, S. Haddon.
2 Hardwick's Firebrand, W. Bullock.
3 Ditto, B. Vialls.
Rose Flakes.
1 Elliott's Martha, J. Carter.
2 Tyso's Queen Victoria, E. Weston.
3 May's Ariel, B. Vialls.
Purple Flakes.
1 Barringer's Earl Spencer, S. Haddon.
2 Ditto, B. Vialls.
3 Hudson's Miss Thornton, J. Carter.

PICOTEES.

Six blooms.—1 Brooks's Duchess of Cambridge, Brinklow's Conductor, John's Prince Albert, Barnard's Mrs. Barnard, Martin's Queen Victoria, and Barrand's Euphemia, W. Bullock. 2. Dixon's Mr. Trahar, Haddon's Miss Dundas, Marris's Prince Albert, May's Juliet, Gatliff's Proconsul, and Burroughes's Lady Alice Peel, B. Vialls. 3. Marris's Prince of Wales, Edmond's Jenny Lind, May's Portia, Barringer's Miss Duke, Garratt's Lady Dacre, and Gatliff's Proconsul, B Vialls.

Heavy-edged Red
1 Sharpe's Duke of Wellington, J. Rabbitt.
2 Marris's Prince of Wales, B. Vialls.
3 Sharpe's Duke of Wellington, S. Haddon.
Light-edged Red.
1 Burroughes's Mrs. Bevan, S. Haddon.
2 Barringer's Duchess of Bedford, J. Rabbitt.
3 Molyneux's Maid of Honour, E. Weston.
Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Unknown, J. Rabbitt.
2 Hill's Seedling, S. Haddon.
3 Carter's Purple Standard, T. Chambers.
Light-edged Purple.
1 Sharpe's L'Elegant, S. Haddon.
2 Brinklow's Leader, J. Rabbitt.
3 Barringer's Miss Duke, B. Vialls.
Heavy-edged Rose.
1 Headley's Venus, B. Vialls.
2 Gatliffe's Proconsul, ditto.
3 Headley's Venus, ditto.
Light-edged Rose.
1 Burroughes's Lady Alice Peel, J. Rabbitt.
2 Ditto, B. Vialls.
3 Barnard's Mrs. Barnard, B. Vialls.
Heavy-edged Yellow.
1 Martin's Queen Victoria, T. Chambers.
2 Barrand's Euphemia, B. Vialls.
3 Martin's Queen Victoria, S. Haddon.
Light-edged Yellow.
1 Martin's Queen Victoria, S. Haddon
2 Ditto, J. Rabbitt.

OXFORD FLORISTS' SOCIETY.

August 1.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres
1 Admiral Curzon, Mr. Maltby.
2 Brutus, Mr. Colcutt.
3 Admiral Curzon, Mr. Kirtland.
Crimson Bizarres.
1 May's Marc Antony, Mr. Looker.
2 Hardman's Splendid, Mr. Colcutt.
3 Elliott's Victory, Mr. Kirtland.
Scarlet Flakes.
1 Firebrand, Mr. Colcutt,
2 Chadwick's Brilliant, Mr. Maltby.
3 Lydia, Mr. Kirtland.
Purple Flakes.
1 Pollard's First-rate, Mr. Maltby.
2 Brabbin's Squire Meynell, Mr. Kirtland
Rose Flakes.
1 Apollo, Mr. Maltby.
2 Ariel, Mr. Looker.
3 Flora's Garland. Mr. Kirtland.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Headley's Nonnette, Mr. Payne.
2 May's Portia, Mr. Kirtland.
3 Burroughes's President, Mr. Colcutt.
4 Ely's Mrs. Lilly, Mr. Looker.
Light-edged Purple.
1 May's Juliet, Mr. Maltby.
2 Seedling, Mr. Kirtland.
3 Ditto, Mr. Payne.
4 Juliet, Mr. Looker.
Heavy-edged Red.
1 Duchess of Cambridge, Mr. Kirtland
2 King James, Mr. Looker.
3 Ditto, Mr. Maltby.
Light edged Red.
1 Youell's Gem, Mr. Costar.
2 Seedling, Mr. Kirtland.
3 Youell's Gem, Mr. Maltby.
Heavy-edged Rose.
1 Headley's Venus, Mr. Colcutt.
2 Ditto. Mr. Maltby.
3 Ditto, Mr. Kirtland.
4 Ditto, Mr. Payne.
Light-edged Rose.
1 Colcutt's Camilla, Mr. Colcutt.
2 Mrs. Barnard. Mr. Kirtland.
3 Queen Victoria, Mr. Payne.
4 Lady Alice Peel. Mr. Costar.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

TULIPS OF 1850.

BY THE EDITOR.

We would much rather that our tulip-loving friends would send us some of their notes and memorandums; we now, however, revert to our own, and shall endeavour to describe some flowers we have seen in our immediate neighbourhood, during the past season. We are fond, very fond, of a good gossip about flowers, and, judging of other florists by our own feelings, we suppose they are so likewise. If we are mistaken, we fear it is just possible that by anybody but tulip growers we may be voted *a bore*. However, they claim a few pages, and we must accede. Well, we do not know, with the exception of the mutilated bloom of Polyphemus (feathered), shown at Belle Vue, that we have seen a feathered bizarre that pleased us better than

Magnet.—This we obtained some years ago, as a seedling, from Mr. Foreman, of Chellaston. It bloomed weakly from a maiden bulb, yet, though small, it was perfect, and what is more, *distinct*—so much so, that it can hardly have an "*alias*." Combined to perfect purity, the edging was laid on in a remarkable manner, not feathering, but plated. We shall wait with some anxiety till our root gets larger. If the flower grows proportionably large, it will prove a formidable antagonist to Charles X. and *all his family*.

The London or south country flamed bizarre that we considered first-rate, was,

Leonidas, a noble fourth-row variety. With us it flowered early, but it is of that character which will be considered an acquisition by all north country growers; *pure*, of *good form*, regular in its marking, and standing well up, as if its stem were iron. Our friend, Mr. George Lightbody, stated to us, at Manchester, that it was now very scarce, and in few hands.

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This season, we adopted a fresh plan. We planted a row of breeders down the centre of our bed. As these are now exhibited at most northern shows, they of course require the same care as rectified flowers. It often happens that breeders, when they break the first time, come in splendid character, and in this case, they would be more likely to be preserved than on an off-bed.

Rhea Sylvia (Dixon) broke with us a most beautiful feathered rose, one of the most promising we have seen this season, and we have seen some good ones.

Earl Stanhope (Waters).—The party who raised this is now no more. Out of many seedlings, this was the only one that was considered first-rate. As it was not named when we had it, and at the same time being unconscious of any more, we have named it in honour of the nobleman who owns the estate where Mr. Waters lived, and we have attached the raiser's name to it, that honour may be given where honour is due, though he is now far beyond all earthly honour. The flower is yet in its breeder state. It is first-rate in form, purity and substance. The colour is deep rosy claret.

George Glenny (Reid).—A good-formed light-beamed byblœmen. Ours was from a small root. We anticipate a fine flower from a strong bulb.

Another Scotch flower, that improves on acquaintance, is,

Finlayson's Hampden.—Though not either decidedly feathered or flamed, still there is that about it which reminds us of its parent, Polyphemus, and we think it is better coloured, being black, on rich yellow.

Adams's Seedling Rose is also of Scotch extraction. It is a feathered rose, with good cup and stout petal, and stands a long time in bloom. It is, however, unfortunately, stained.

Roland.—This is a most beautiful breeder. We do not know the raiser, neither are we aware that it has ever been rectified. At all events, it is first-rate, and one that we should imagine would break black and white. Colour light lilac.

Prime Minister (Slater).—We like this breeder, though it is anything but a handsome colour in its unrectified state. It is dingy yellow, but the cup is pure and good. Very likely to break well.

Grace Darling (Kinningsburg).—This we have seen figured at a high price, but it is long in the cup, and the points of the petals reflex. It is, however, pure, and a prettily-marked flamed rose, but it will not do for a pan flower.

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Marshal Soult (Groom).—A fresh face in this part of the world. A neat good-formed and prettily-flamed bizarre. This will also suit north and midland growers. There is a feathered strain, said to be very good.

Here we must stop.

NOTES ON HERBACEOUS PERENNIAL BORDER PLANTS.

SCARCELY less beautiful than the delphiniums or larkspurs, I talked to your readers about, in your last number, are the dianthuses. I do not mean pinks or carnations, which botanists say belong to the same family as the sweetwilliam—and so they do; but I mean that section which bear their flowers in heads, like that really fine old favourite, the mule pink. Let me see; that little gem, Dianthus pumila (the Dwarf Mule Pink), has been one of the nicest things in my garden—so neat, so dwarf, so brilliant. Its flowers, though single, are produced in a close head, and have a white centre. For the front of flower borders, and where plants of neat habit are required, this will be found a very desirable thing. But then there is that chamelionlike plant, Dianthus mutabilis (the Changeable Mule Pink). With me it rises about nine inches. The flowers are double, produced in a close head, and are extremely variable in colour, having in the same truss, pink, blush, and white blooms. It is not very common; I have seldom seen it in any garden except my own; but it is so pretty, it should be everywhere. What a splendid thing is Dianthus aggregatus. That's the name I had with it, but I am not learned enough to tell you what it means, except that I make "aggregatus" *aggregate*,—flowers in the aggregate, flowers in a cluster,—and indeed, when well grown, what a cluster of beautiful dark crimson double flowers are brought together; positively I have seen some of my

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plants of this fine variety with heads as big as small cauliflowers. I have sat down before them, when the sun has been shining on them, and they were indeed a "blaze of beauty." I have had Alta clarense very good this season. The head is not so compact as the preceding; but the individual flowers are of better shape, and a clear rich scarlet. It is a sweet thing, and well worthy of one of the choicest nooks in the flower border. How attractive too is Dianthus fulgens. Though the blooms are single, they are of the richest crimson; the foliage is rather narrow, and the habit compact. Adapted for the front border. There is yet another or two that I am extremely fond of. Dianthus patens, or Paters Mule Pink, is distinct, flowers double, purplish rose, with darker centre, rises twelve inches. This variety is extremely fragrant. Then there is Dianthus Gelthœlii, of foreign extraction, beautiful crimson and white. The pods, however, are *bursters*, and it requires great care to bloom it well. Under glass, it does better than out of doors. For a rock plant, there is Dianthus polymorphus, with small single pink flowers. It has a trailing habit, and is well adapted for situations where such plants are required. These few varieties of this very interesting family I grow, and from their beauty and fragrance, can strongly recommend them to your readers.

H. S. M.

COPPICEANA.

No. IX.

THE "Thorn" was an especial favourite of the late J. C. Loudon, Esq. and deservedly so, forming, as many of the varieties do, trees of great beauty. Those enumerated in our last number are all exceedingly beautiful; in fact, some of the gems of the family. We shall now describe some others, which,

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though perhaps not quite so attractive, are, nevertheless, plants of singular merit.

Cratægus Stricta (The Upright Thorn) is one of these; somewhat like a miniature Lombardy poplar, or if grafted close to the ground, bearing some resemblance, at a distance, to the juniper. It is a very neat small tree, and should be grown, as it contrasts nicely with round-headed varieties. 1s.

C. Tanacetifolia Leeana. (Lee's Cut-leaved Thorn.)—A very beautiful sort, with large deeply-indented glossy foliage. The growth is strong, and the flowers are produced in very large clusters. A striking and beautiful tree. Same price.

C. Salicifolia Pendula. (The Willow-leaved Weeping Thorn.)—This has a singular spreading habit, and the foliage is long and narrow. It ought to be grafted on a tall stem, otherwise it is apt to form a rather straggling bush. It is more adapted for arboretums, or those gardens where curious trees and shrubs are grown, than anywhere else.

C. Crenulata.—A very pretty evergreen thorn, with foliage somewhat like the preceding, except that it is more crenulated, or notched. The habit is dense, and it would make a good companion to the Pyracantha, to which it also has some resemblance, though the berries are smaller. Either as a plant for a wall, or grafted as a standard tree, it is sure to be a favourite.

C. Splendens.—This we have also had under the names of *Grandiflora* and *Smithii.* It is of peculiar habit, and very distinct; the flowers are large, white, and produced singly, on short footstalks. There are some remarkably fine trees of this variety in the neighbourhood of Manchester.

Our next are a beautiful tribe of evergreen plants. Cypresses are alluded to in works of the highest antiquity. The Upright, or Italian Cypress,

Cupressus Sempervirens is very graceful. On the strong and rather cold land here it does not succeed very well, large portions of the branches being killed off in winter, but in soil of a more open texture it does well. For a cemetery, there are few plants, with the exception, perhaps, of the Irish yew, to equal it. Worth 1s. 6d. if two feet high.

C. Lambertiana.—This is an extremely rapid-growing evergreen tree. Our specimen is a remarkably fine one, rather inclined to be pendulous at the points of the shoots. Getting just bronzed with the winds and frosts of winter, but putting on its beautiful green foliage in the spring, we know of few more interesting trees than this. Price 2s. 6d. to 5s.

C. Thyoides. (The White Cedar.)—A very old inhabitant of our gardens. In habit rather loose, foliage rather pale, good as a variety, but not so handsome as others of its family. 1s.

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There is a variegated variety of the White Cedar, having the foliage marked with yellow, a pretty contrast to the preceding. Both make small trees. There are some few others, but as we do not grow them at the Coppice, of course they are not included in our list.

CATALPA.

C. Syringafolia—An American tree, attaining considerable size in warm and sheltered situations. The leaves are of large size, entire, though the wood, which is of gross habit, is often killed at the tips by the frosts of Nottinghamshire. In Devonshire it blossoms freely.

CERASUS.

The deciduous kinds, or those which drop their leaves in winter, are,

C. Padus. (The Bird Cherry.)—A small bushy tree, bearing a profusion of small white flowers, in spikes. These are succeeded by black fruit, like currants, greedily eaten by birds. Adapted for the back part of shrubberies.

C. Padus Variegata.—A variegated variety of the preceding, the leaves being strongly marked with yellowish white. Propagated by grafting on the C. padus.

C. Sinensis. (The Double Dwarf Almond.)—This is a very beautiful dwarf shrub, with pink flowers. It will take freely on the pear plum stock; or budded standard high, it forms a fit companion for cytisuses and similar small-growing lawn trees. Price 1s. 6d.

CERCIS. *(The Judas Tree.)*

C. Siliquastrum.—A dwarf branching tree. The flowers are pea-shaped, and produced in small bunches, close to the branches, blooming very early in the spring, before the leaves are expanded. Propagated by seeds and layers. 1s.

MR. GOLDHAM'S TULIPS.

Gem.—Fourth-row rose. Flamed and feathered with splendid carmine, interlined and shaded with a deep blood colour; the shape superb, petals stout, comes out creamy, then bleaches. This flower, to my thinking, is one of the highest coloured roses in existence.

Napoleon.—Second-row byblœmen. Rich plum-coloured flame and feather, white ground extremely good, and beautiful

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shape; comes out early, and stands well to the last. By many preferred to Pandora, to which it bears some resemblance.

Marquis of Anglesey.—Fourth row byblœmen. Requires much bleaching, shape good, a grand bed flower, a very distinct variety, with a bold strong beam, very attractive.

Julius Cæsar.—Third-row bizarre. Very clear yellow ground, with deep black feather and rich flame, great width and substance of petal, extra fine shape, and one of the finest bizarres going.

Charles Kemble.—Third-row byblœmen. Dense unbroken black feather, fine white ground, very constant and beautiful, rather late.

John Kemble.—Second-row byblœmen. Splendid white, black feather and narrow flame of rich purple, fine shape, very constant, and first-rate. This, and Charles Kemble, Mr. G. informs me, were out of the same pod of seed. The resemblance is great, nevertheless, distinct in some points.

Marshal Soult.—Third-row byblœmen. Like Musidora, but of lighter colour, the shape good, comes into bloom rather early.

Lord Nelson.—Fourth-row byblœmen. One of the largest and tallest tulips grown, dark feather and broad purple flame, white pure, with expansive base, very fine shape, comes into bloom early, and carries itself well to the last.

Sunset.—Third-row bizarre. Very distinct and beautiful yellow ground, red feather and a vermillion rib in the centre of each petal, fine shape, but smaller than the generality of his flowers, and comes rather late into bloom.

Mary.—Second-row rose, and unlike any other grown. A very fine white, with the brightest scarlet flame going, terminating with a star towards the base, fine shape, and a splendid flower, one of Mr. G.'s special favourites. I have a strong remembrance of its attraction when first broken, it has established itself well since, and Mr. G. may well be proud of his pet.

Pass Marcellus.—Third-row bizarre. Of splendid shape, petals of noble width and substance equal to, but not surpassed by any, first-rate, and very haply named.

Prince.—First-row byblœmen. A beautiful white, with black feather and first-rate cup. Mr. G. tells me it is a seedling raised from Polyphemus, one might therefore take the liberty of calling it a complete Polyphemus byblœmen.

Every one of the foregoing are clean at the base; in fact, Mr. Goldham (the father of the fancy here) would not tolerate an unclean cup, however otherwise beautiful.

J. DAVIDSON.

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NEW TULIPS,

RAISED FROM SEED BY RICHARD HEADLEY, ESQ.

[Completed from page 339.]

Semiramis.—Third-row rose. A flower of splendid form and great substance of petal. It is purity itself, having a broad rosy feather on a ground of exquisite white, and retains its character to the last,

Siren.—Third-row rose. Of the most perfect form, bottom and stamens perfectly pure, very thick petals, grand flame and feather, of a pale rose colour, with dark crimson gouts. A very first-class rose. Broke 1850.

Celia.—Second-row rose. Of fine form and extra large size, pure bottom and stamens, petals thick, heavy flame and feather of bright crimson. Broke 1849.

Mary Headley.—Second-row rose. Of large size and perfect form, very stout petals, pure bottom and stamens, strong flame of crimson and black, with broad crimson feather. One of the most gorgeous flowers in existence. Broke 1850.

Sylph.—Second-row rose. Fine form and substantial petals, delicately feathered with brilliant scarlet, pure bottom and stamens. A first-class show flower. Broke 1850.

Exquisite.—Second-row rose. Of perfect form, great substance of petal, exquisitely pure in the interior, feathered with a bright rose colour. The name is very appropriate. Broke 1849.

Antigone.—Second-row rose. Of perfect form, very stout petals, pure bottom and stamens, with a heavy flame and feather of a dark rose colour. A first-class rose. Broke 1849.

ROSES.

I ASSURE you I always look for your little work with great interest, and several of my friends are now subscribers. I promised in one of my late letters, to give you a description of some of the newest roses which I had seen in bloom during the past summer. At Ghent you are aware that there are fine nurseries. We have also some respectable collections here. Brussells is likewise noted for the enthusiasm with which plant culture is carried on; but of this more at another time. "*Revennons a nos roses.*"

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The list of moss roses has amazingly increased of late years—"quantity at the expense of quality" I fear is the case. I, however, noticed at Brussells a beautiful variety, called Aristobule. Its colour is a very pretty pink, slightly shaded and mottled. This will, I think, become a favourite with your rose cultivators. There was also a novelty—in fact, a great one. Picture to yourself that old and deserved favourite, Crimson Perpetual. Well then, take from the plant its beautiful deep pink flowers, and replace them with creamy flesh-coloured ones: then you have it; but positively, as the flowers age, they become white. It really is a good thing, very fragrant, and, like the Crimson Perpetual, flowers very freely in autumn. It is called, from its similarity of habit, I suppose, Blanche du Roi. Your florists appear to appreciate this class of flowers, and good hybrid perpetuals and Bourbons are much in vogue here. Madame Clavel is a splendid rose of this class; colour a lively pink, the tips of the petals being of a darker shade. It is very floriferous, and has attracted considerable attention here. Madame Lamoriciere is a very singular and novel rose. There is a peculiar transparency about the petals, which I have not noticed in roses of this class. The colour is a bright pink, the back of the petals being of a much lighter shade. Purpurine is a very nice hybrid perpetual; the flowers are very well formed, and of a most brilliant deep scarlet. This will, I think, be as much admired with you as the famed Geant des Battailles. There is yet another that I find amongst my memorandums, and it has a mark of admiration against it. It is Charlotte Seguier. I think, of all I saw, this was one of my greatest favourites. The flowers were nearly as large as La Reine, and of full and fine contour; in fact, a splendid and excellent blooming autumnal variety. Colour pink.

You would be surprised at the immense quantity of seedling roses raised in Belgium. Many, cer-

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tainly, are inferior to what you already have; and, in fact, I believe it is advisable that even those which, during the warm summers here, flower so finely, should be previously proved in your country.

In Bourbons, I did not see more than three or four that I considered extra, amongst the new ones. General Oudinot is a remarkably brilliant colour, crimson, shaded with purple. The flowers also are more than usually double. This, if it opens well with you, will be a general favourite. Decil de l'Archevêque de Paris, a long name truly, but a fine rose. It is a very peculiar deep purple crimson, slightly mottled or shaded with light crimson. As a pot rose, you will, I think, find it very fine. I must now conclude my notice with a fine fancy rose, called Narcisse de Salvandy. It is a beautiful crimson purple, the petals margined with cream colour—the florists here say white, but I do not call it pure. Nevertheless, it is a most striking sort. This, with the others before mentioned, I think the cream of what I have seen. Nevertheless, Colonel Foissy, Comte Bobrinsky, Jeanne d'Arc, and Madame Guillot are very beautiful, and should, by this time, be introduced into England.

R. S.

Malines, Belgium.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DECEASED FLORISTS.

BY THE EDITOR.

We have often thought that anecdotes of eminent florists, with an account of some of the flowers they have raised, would be a very interesting feature in the *Midland Florist*. We will endeavour to supply this information of those in our own neighbourhood, and shall be most happy to receive records of "departed worth" from our brother florists in various

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parts of the country. We think we cannot do better than begin with the father of the fancy in this neighbourhood.

Mr. John Pearson, the grandfather of the present proprietors of the Chilwell nurseries, began life in very humble circumstances, but by perseverance, joined to kindly feelings and integrity of conduct, he became a very considerable landed proprietor, at Chilwell. Before commencing the business of nurseryman and florist, he was a stocking-maker, having a small garden, in front of his shop window, where he grew his flowers; Mrs. Pearson, at the same time, keeping a "dame school." From this small beginning, as we before observed, he accumulated a handsome fortune. He cultivated tulips, auriculas, polyanthuses, carnations, ranunculuses, and pinks, with equal success. He was one of those people who have universal good fortune; whatever he took in hand was sure to prosper with him, and his urbanity ensured him golden opinions from all sorts of persons. We will relate an illustrative anecdote. A dealer in seeds, hops, &c. whom he learned was in embarrassed circumstances, owed him £150. He called on this party, who frankly told him that payment was utterly impossible, but that he had a quantity of hops by him, and if he would purchase £300 worth of him, he might deduct the amount of his bill. Though Mr. Pearson was not a dealer in the article, he accepted the offer, and when he reached home, in consequence of the low price at which hops were selling, his better half thought he was mad, and prognosticated all sorts of losses from the apparently foolish bargain. However, the succeeding year, the hop bines in various parts of the country were attacked with blight, and the crop was nearly a total failure, and in consequence, Mr. Pearson realized cent. per cent. This is one of numerous instances that have come to our knowledge. On his first journies to the metropolis he would take with him a

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number of hose or stockings (there are several people still living who entrusted him with dozens), the profits on which paid the expenses of his journey. Of flowers bearing his name there are not many now much thought of, though in their day, they were considered first-rate. We think his polyanthuses were the best. Of his England's Defiance we have repeatedly heard his son, the late Mr. John Pearson (to whom we were apprenticed), state that in two years he made £75. He retained it in his possession till he had a large stock, and having numerous correspondents all over the country, when he sold or let it out, he parted with one hundred plants, at ten shillings each; and the succeeding year he sold another hundred, at five shillings each; making a very large sum, unequalled, we imagine, by any other sort or grower. His other varieties were England's Wooden Walls, a very neatly-struck or laced flower, full size, the ground colour being shaded with a peculiar tinge of purple, giving it a unique and pleasing appearance. Commander-in-Chief was somewhat like Fletcher's Defiance, it stood up well, the flowers forming a compact and neat truss. Harlequin was a great favourite, a well-laced flower, the ground or body colour being dark red, with an occasional scarlet shade, which diversity of colour influenced its designation. It very often came with six divisions in the corolla, or, as would be termed by some, though erroneously, six-petalled. The flower, however, which is known far and wide as Pearson's Alexander, was not originated by him, but by the late Mr. James Lee, of Lenton. Mr. Pearson purchased the stock for five pounds, thus acquiring the right to prefix his own name to it. This flower needs no description here, but there are few which have taken so many first prizes, or whose beauties were so striking. We do not recollect any other polyanthuses sold out as his. The four first are extinct, whilst from the last great quantities of

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seedlings of very similar character have been raised, but it still retains, when well grown, its proud pre-eminence.

In carnations and picotees, his flowers at that time (1821) stood high. These were Blucher and Lord Bagot, scarlet bizarres: the former a bold flower, but rather coarse; the latter excellently well marked, with the most pure white ground we ever saw in a carnation. His Madame Mara (scarlet flake) was always at the head of the list, being bright in colour, well marked, and the white good. Lady Loudon was an excellent rose flake, and Chilwell Beauty was a heavy-edged red picotee. In those days, light-edged flowers were not often seen in this part of the country. Perhaps his best auricula was Badajoz, though he had a seedling called Prince of Wales, which he thought highly off, but it died after blooming, being a heart truss. In ranunculuses, we do not recollect that he raised any seedlings; in fact, that part of floriculture was not so well understood as now; but in tulips he raised several then thought tolerably well of. Princess Charlotte, a long-cupped flamed byblœmen, with an undecided beam, tolerably pure, but now out of date. Another byblœmen, called Princess of Wales, broke from the breeder the first time beautifully feathered, but was never known to come in such character again. His Fair Ellen was a flamed rose, of a peculiar character; and his Lord Hill, or Matilda, was of the same class, with a dark bronzy beam. Lady Stanhope, or Short-stemmed Seedling, was a rosy byblœmen, rising about eighteen inches high, with large cup, but no decision of character. These were those most noted at that period. He had a very large collection of tulips, and about the year 1821, he sold eight of his side beds, when in bloom, at five pounds a bed. It was on these beds that Sidney Smith, or Magnum Bonum, came amongst the Nottingham florists, and it was also from hence that Royal Sovereign was obtained. Those were the names in the old gentleman's book,

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and we never heard, nor do we suppose that any one ever thought that he called them thus to enhance their price, as has been roundly asserted by a Manchester florist, in the *Durham Advertiser*. It was the sale of these beds that started many tulip growers in the neighbourhood, ourselves amongst the rest, we having purchased them of Mr. T. Hewitt, who, with a Mr. Fowkes, had one of the beds.

As a liberal supporter of all florists' meetings Mr. Pearson stood pre-eminent; and his enthusiasm for his favourite pursuit was such, that when starting in his profession, he went to Derby for a pair of carnations, which he found had been potted in the blooming pot, and rather than injure them by removing the layers from the soil, he carried the pot, with more than half a peck of earth in it, on his shoulder, from Derby to Chilwell, a distance of about twelve miles. He was also fond of fruit. A very excellent small table apple bears his name, and is called in the Horticultural Society's Catalogue, Pearson's Plate Apple, or Aromatic Pippin. His Pearson's Prolific, or Red Antwerp, was raised from seed of the Yellow Antwerp, and is still a most excellent variety. Pearson's Prolific Nut, though not raised by him, is one of the best fruits of its kind. This nut was, as we have noticed in our first volume, raised at Newark, and though the party who originated it from seed would not part with the old plant, still Mr. Pearson had the layers which it produced for a certain number of years, at a shilling each. In fact, the secret of his unvarying success depended in a great measure on his purchasing and keeping the best articles that he could get, in every department of his profession. Previous to his death, he gave up business to his son, and his wife dying, appeared seriously to affect his mind, and he survived her but a short period. He is still affectionately remembered in the village, having sustained in a remarkable degree, through life, the character of a good husband, father, friend, and florist.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

TREES AND SHRUBS.

RHAMUS CALIFORNICUS.—An evergreen, of close habit, with pretty small serrated foliage.

TAXUS HARRINGTONIA.—A very desirable yew, with spreading branches. An excellent evergreen.

JASMINUM ARBUSCULA SUPERBA.—This is a decided acquisition. The foliage is rounded at the ends, and the habit of the plant is very beautiful.

RHODOTHAMNUS KAMSCHATICUS.—A dwarf and compact evergreen shrub. It is very showy, having large purple flowers, and will make a beautiful rock plant.

VEGETABLES.

WE know very many of our readers are interested in new vegetables, and we shall introduce one to their notice, the description of which we translate from the catalogue of that enthusiastic cultivator, M. Van Houtte, of Ghent. He says, "For some years, there has been some anxiety to find a substitute for the common garden spinach, and the plants brought forward for this purpose have had more or less success. At last one has been introduced which is well adapted for culinary purposes, and which will super-

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sede the spinach above alluded to. It is called Phytolacca, and seeds of which were sent me from India, under the designation of Phytolacca esculenta. The plant reaches nearly a yard in height, and is of strong bushy habit, with very large leaves. Cooked in the usual way, these leaves have this great advantage, they sink or decrease in bulk twice as little as those of spinach. The flavour is extremely good, inclined to be warm, and does not require pepper or other stimulants. Such is the opinion of every one who has partaken of it at my house, during the past summer." We think that the above appears well worthy of notice, and we have no doubt it will speedily be brought into cultivation in this country. M. V. H. further adds, "The Phytolacca esculenta is a perennial, and produces great quantities of seed. I take up the roots at the approach of winter, and protect them from frost, replanting in March. I am certain that, forced, they would produce plentifully in less than a month. It is every way a most excellent vegetable, which gardeners will soon know how to profit by."

Mr. Thomas Barnes, of Stowmarket, is selling a new variety of pea, called "Taylor's Early Prolific." Its qualities are hardiness and equality to the earliest in cultivation; its habit is dwarf, height three feet; bearing from a few inches of the ground to the top of the shoots, the pods are very numerous and well filled.

Amongst new vegetables proved at the Horticultural Society's Garden, during the year, are the following:—

Tomato Capsicum.—This was received from the eminent seedsman M. Vilmorin, of Paris. The fruit is very like a large red tomato, but is much milder than the generality of capsicums, and the plant is very productive.

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A NEW SAVOY.—THE EARLY ULM.—Very dwarf in growth, and forming a heart quickly, of excellent quality. It is described as the earliest in cultivation. The specimens exhibited were sown April 8, and were ready for use when others sown at the same time were not. Not being so large as other varieties, it will only be an acquisition in small families, where precocity is desirable.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE PLUM AS A PYRAMIDAL TREE.

FOR some years I have amused myself by forming my plum trees into pyramids, feeling convinced that no other mode of cultivating our hardy fruits is so eligible for small gardens. I was induced to take extra pains, on account of observing that our neighbours, the French, so famous in their cultivation of pyramids, failed to a certain extent with the plum; as their trees, I observed, on being pruned to that shape, made too vigorous shoots, and were inclined to gum. They do not know the value of root-pruning, and will not listen to it. I do, and therefore felt some hopes of success. At first, I commenced to root-prune once in two or three years, but I soon found that was not enough, for the plum makes roots so rapidly that it is difficult to check it. I have now, therefore, for the last three years, root-pruned annually, early in autumn. My success is perfect. This I have generally done in September, soon after gathering the fruit; but this year, not having any fruit, I operated on them in August. The trees almost immediately went to rest, and are now pictures of forthcoming fruitfulness. The operation is so simple, that any one may exercise it without

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fear of failure. Let me attempt to describe it,—and yet how irksome it is to me to have to employ so many words about what one can tell and do in a few minutes. Open a circular trench, eighteen inches deep (for the plum does not root deeply), round the tree, eighteen inches from the stem. For the first two or three years this distance will be enough. Increase the diameter of the circle as years roll on, but very slowly, not more than one to two inches in a year, and cut off every root and fibre with a sharp knife. This operation may be likened to the way, talked of by old folks, in which they used to cut the hair of poor workhouse boys, viz. place a basin on the boy's head, and trim off the hair round its rim—in short, the workhouse cut. Then, when your roots are so trimmed, introduce a spade under one side of the tree, and heave it over, so as not to leave a single tap root. Fill in the mould, and if the weather is dry, give the tree a good soaking, and it is finished. If your soil is poor, give a top-dressing of manure, to be washed in by winter rains. The following summer, pinch off the ends, in June, of any shoots that seem inclined to push more than four inches, and thin those out with a knife that are too crowded. The result will be a handsome and highly prolific pyramidal tree.

Plums are not yet half appreciated; for owing to the introduction of many new and good varieties, they are in season from July till November, for the dessert and for the kitchen.

T. R., in Gardener's Chronicle.

NEW PELARGONIUMS, OR GERANIUMS, AND CINERARIAS, OF FIRST-RATE QUALITY.

Incomparable (Beck).—Upper petals crimson scarlet, with rich dark spot; under petals scarlet, but rather shy.

Little, but Good (Beck).—Rich orange scarlet, with dark spot; under petals crimson scarlet. A tolerable truss.

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Rosa (Beck).—Too near the preceding in colour, but still a desirable flower. Habit and truss good.

Major Domo (Beck).—A prodigiously large rose-coloured flower, with rich dark blotch, fine-formed petal, and good truss. Habit of plant excellent. A distinct and desirable kind.

Diana (Beck).—Upper petals light rose, with dark blotch, and clear white throat. A large flower, and tolerably good.

No. 1 (Beck).—Upper petals purplish crimson, and dark spot; under petals deep rose, veined, and clear white throat. Habit and truss tolerable.

No. 2 (Beck).—Upper petals crimson, with black spot; under petals rosy crimson, with spot on each. Moderate trusses.

No. 3 (Beck).—Deep rose colour, with a rich blotch; under petals light rose, with a clear throat and nice truss.

No. 4 (Beck).—Large flower, bright rose colour, with dark spot, clear and distinct throat, good truss.

Purpurea (Beck).—A fine rosy flower, with dark spot, a fine trusser, and of good habit.

Eclipse (Hoyle).—Upper petals orange scarlet, lightly clouded; lower petals scarlet; habit good, with a fine truss.

Heartsease (Hoyle).—Upper petals scarlet, slightly clouded; under petals scarlet; habit tolerable, but a shy trusser.

Generalissimo (Hoyle).—Upper petals clouded with rich Spanish brown, under petals rose colour, good habit, fine form, and good truss.

Celia (Hoyle).—Upper petals bright orange scarlet, dark clouded spots; under petals scarlet; good trusses, and fine habit.

Ajax (Hoyle).—A remarkably fine bold flower. The upper petals rich deep mulbery colour, under petals dark rose, fine form and truss, good habit.

May Queen (Hoyle).—Upper petals bright rose, clouded; under petals light rose, with white throat; fine truss and habit, but rather inclined to burn.

Corinne (Hoyle).—Evenly-shaded rich upper petals, under petals purplish rose, good form and truss.

Portia (Hoyle).—Rosy upper petals, with rich chocolate blotch; under petals rose-coloured; a free bloomer, and good habit.

Rosa (Hoyle).—Upper petals rich scarlet, dark feathered blotch; under petals scarlet; good truss and habit.

Rubiola (Hoyle).—A rich crimson scarlet, with black spot; under petals scarlet; fine truss and tolerable habit.

Cristine (Hoyle).—A finely-formed rose flower, with pencilled throat; the upper petals a little crumpled. Very free bloomer, and fine habit.

Ocellata (Hoyle).—The most remarkable flower of the season. A purplish rose colour, beautifully spotted on the lower as well as the upper petals with rich chocolate. A true fancy flower, of tolerable habit, and a free bloomer.

Beauty of Montpelier (Rendle).—A rich clouded light flower, with a white throat and good truss and habit.

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FANCY PELARGONIUMS.

Perfection (Ambrose).—A very nice formed flower, of clouded rose colour; a free bloomer, and of good habit.

Captivation (Ambrose).—A rich mulbery-coloured flower, of moderate form and habit.

Gaiety (Ambrose).—A pretty spotted variety, of dwarf habit; ground colour flesh, with plum-coloured spots. A very free bloomer.

Exquisita (Gaines).—A very pretty flower, but too much like several others in cultivation.

CINERARIAS.

Little Wonder (Ivery).—White, tipped with cherry colour; rather large disk, form good, most compact habit.

Queen of England (Salter).—A fine-formed and very showy white flower, of good size, with purplish rose edge, and of good habit.

Madame Sontag (Henderson).—A fine-formed white flower, with rather deep lavender edge, and good habit.

Clara Mowbray (Henderson).—A distinct light red flower, of good form and habit.

Lady Hume Campbell (Henderson).—A remarkably neat white flower, of fine form, with bluish purple edge, and small disk; habit good, and a profuse bloomer.

Prima Donna (Henderson).—A bluish purple, of moderate form and good habit.

Mrs. Sidney Herbert (Henderson).—A crimson flower, of tolerable form and neat dwarf habit.

Marion (Henderson).—A pretty white flower, with rich deep rose edge, and of good form and habit.

Amy Robsart (Henderson).—Rosy red flower, of good form and neat habit.

Maryarette (Henderson).—A blue flower, of tolerable form and good habit.

Jetty Treffz (Henderson).—A neat delicate lilac flower, slightly edged with lavender; small disk, habit and form excellent. The rich silky texture of this flower makes it very interesting.

Magazine of Botany.

PRUNING TO INDUCE FRUITFULNESS IN FRUIT TREES.

When a young fruit tree is too luxuriant, employing all its energies in making vigorous shoots, but forming few or no blossom buds, and producing no fruit, we have it in our power, by different modes of prun-

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ing, to lessen this over-luxuriance, and force it to expend its energies in fruit-bearing. The most direct and successful mode of doing this is by pruning the roots, a proceeding recently brought into very successful practice by European gardeners.

Root-pruning has the effect of at once cutting off a considerable supply of the nourishment formerly afforded by the roots of a tree. The leaves losing part of their usual food, are neither able to grow as rapidly as before nor to use all the nutritious matter already in the branches; the branches therefore become stunted in their growth, the organizable matter accumulates, and fruit-buds are directly formed. The energies of the tree are no longer entirely carried off in growth, and the returning sap is employed in producing fruit-buds for the next year.

Root-pruning should be performed in autumn or winter, and it usually consists in laying bare the roots, and cutting smoothly, at a few feet from the trunk (in proportion to the size of the tree), the principal roots. Mr. Rivers, a nurseryman of celebrity, who has practised this mode with great success, digs a trench, early in November, eighteen inches deep, round his trees to be root-pruned, cutting off the roots with a sharp spade. By following this practice every year, he not only throws his trees into early bearing, but forces apples, pears, and the like, grafted on their own roots, to become prolific dwarfs, growing only six feet apart, trained in a conical form, full of fruit-branches, and producing abundantly. These dwarf trees, thus annually root-pruned, he supplies abundantly with manure, at the ends of the roots; thus keeping up their health and vigour. This plan is an admirable one for small gardens, or for amateurs who may wish to grow a great many sorts on a small surface. Mr. Rivers, in a pamphlet on this subject, enumerates the following among the advantages of *systematic root-pruning*:—

1. The facility of thinning (owing to the small size of the trees), and in some varieties of setting

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the blossoms of shy-bearing sorts, and of thinning and gathering the fruit.

2. It will make the gardener independent of the natural soil of his garden, as a few barrowsful of rich mould will support a tree for a lengthened period, thus placing bad soils nearly on a level with those the most favourable.

3. The capability of removing trees of fifteen or twenty years' growth with as much facility as furniture. To tenants this will indeed be a boon, for perhaps one of the greatest annoyances a tenant can have, is that of being obliged to leave behind him trees that he has nurtured with the utmost care.

In conclusion, Mr. Rivers recommends caution. "Enough of vigour must be left in the tree to support its crop of fruit, and one, two, or three seasons' cessation from root-pruning will often be found necessary." Root-pruning, in this country, will, we think, be most valuable in its application to common standard trees which are thrifty, and bear little or no fruit. They will generally be found to require but a single pruning to bring them into a permanently fruitful condition; and some sorts of pears and plums, which do not usually give a fair crop till they are twelve or fourteen years old, may be brought into fruit by this means, as soon as they are of proper size.

Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.

TO THE CARNATION AND PICOTEE GROWERS OF LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

GENTLEMEN—A meeting of the admirers of these beautiful flowers was held in this village, during the last week, for the purpose of communing with each other upon the necessity of establishing a show for the two counties of Lancashire and orkshire. The meeting was attended by men from Halifax, Huddersfield, &c. and though no general notice of it had been given, it was pretty well attended, and the greatest unanimity prevailed throughout.

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It was resolved that a society should be established, to be called the Lancashire and Yorkshire Union Carnation and Picotee Society. That a show of these beautiful flowers should be held at Todmorden, open to all Lancashire and Yorkshire, the entrance fee to be five shillings and sixpence. The prevailing opinion of the meeting was, that if properly attended to, this society would be the means of doing much good; that it would collect a great number of growers, and would give an impetus to floriculture. All cannot be made florists, nor is it necessary they should; but if we can draw the attention of the people to gardening, we shall divert them from foolish, and worse than foolish pursuits, to something that will give health and vigour both to the mind and body, besides providing many a savoury repast that would otherwise never be thought of. In the manufacturing districts, the short time bill gives leisure hours that will enable every cottager to cultivate his plot of ground; and oh! that the occupiers of land would give encouragement to cottage gardening; they would be conferring an amount of benefit upon the country they are little aware of.

R.

Todmorden.

CULTURE OF THE RHODODENDRON.

On all growers of American plants we wish to impress the following suggestion; however simple it may appear, it is the foundation, when practically carried out, of all success in the cultivation of the rhododendron, and indeed of all fine-rooted plants of a similar character. It is this:—*Never allow them to become thoroughly dry at the root.* When such a condition occurs, the whole structure of the plant is affected, deficiency of vital energy is the result, and the natural consequence of a deteriorated constitution is disease, and possibly death. The rhododendron and its allies suffer more from a condition of excessive dryness than any plants which we recollect; therefore a damp situation, natural or supplied, must be procured for the site of an American garden. In situations where stagnant water is likely to be present, drains must be employed, and they should be three feet in depth. If the soil is not naturally suitable, the following

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excellent compost must be supplied:—To two parts of sandy loam or peat, or in fact any sandy soil that does not contain much chalk or lime (American plants exhibit a great dislike to either), add one-fourth leaf mould, one-eighth sand, and one-eighth rotten manure. If wanted immediately, the whole should be well beaten, and thoroughly incorporated, before using. It would, however, be of great advantage to allow the mixture to remain twelve months, turning it well two or three times during that period. In old exhausted beds, a good dressing of rotten manure, forked in, will be found highly beneficial. If the beds are so situated that the plants can enjoy the shade of trees, without drip from them, it will be an acquisition.

At Highclerc, the seat of the Earl of Carnarvon, in the lake at Milford, are several small islands, of from ten to twenty yards in diameter, planted with American plants, presenting the highest state of luxuriance; many of them from ten to fifteen feet high, and presenting in the blooming season, masses of beauty, from their summits to the very surface of the lake. The soil of these islands is not more than eighteen inches above the water.

On the Himalaya Mountains, the rhododendron is invariably found growing near or on the margin of morasses. So magnificent is the appearance of masses in flower, of the scarlet species of these mountains, that Dr. Wallich compares the effect to that of regiments of soldiers in scarlet uniforms, in the full sun, when viewed at a distance. In America and other parts of the world, where any of the very extensive tribe, commonly known as "American Plants," are found, it is always on the margin of lakes, rivers, or bogs, or on the nearest portions of dry land in their vicinity. Surely then, if the many boggy places and swamps which are to be found in the plantations, on the borders of "drives," and even in view from many of our noblemen's princely mansions, are not worth reclaiming for any other purpose, they afford excellent

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situations for the display of taste and liberality; the ultimate result of which must be to gratify the eye of the proprietor, to enrich the landscape, and to give to our woodland scenery a beauty which is now, except in a few isolated cases, confined to the shrubbery and the pleasure ground.

As we have before observed, if nothing more than a moderate amount of stagnant moisture is present, ordinary draining is all that will be requisite. But there often occur situations in which ordinary modes are not available, or would be too expensive; as where the bog is of such a depth as would require a vast amount of labour to procure sufficient "fall" for the drains. Under such conditions, the desired end can be arrived at by the following means:—Procure a quantity of brushwood, faggots, poles, old "pollards," or any materials of a like nature, and with them form a foundation on the spot you wish to plant; upon this sufficient soil must be placed, that, allowing for subsidence, not less than eighteen inches of suitable compost will remain above the surface of the bog. In such localities, the rhododendron will flourish in all its native beauty; and as the growth will be rapid, the whole substance of the soil will quickly become matted together by the roots of the plants, completely preventing any subsidence in the soil after the wooden foundation is decayed. A desirable quality which the rhododendron possesses, and which is not participated in by the majority of shrubs, is, that game do not readily commit depredations on it.

It now becomes our duty to show in what manner the rhododendron can be induced to succeed *in dry situations*, as we have established the fact that a *moist* situation is a *sine quâ non* for its successful cultivation. The means by which this can be attained are, we consider, very simple, and which we will endeavour to show. They are these:—By deep trenching the natural soil, and keeping the beds in which the plants are growing perfectly flat, and *below* the surrounding

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surface, in order to prevent the escape of a drop of moisture, otherwise than by evaporation. In preparing beds for American plants, in such situations, it is absolutely necessary to trench or in some way prepare a soil three or four feet in depth, as the only means of establishing a lasting resource of moisture. The following will be found an excellent mode of procedure, where the situation is dry, and the soil wholly unfit for the growth of American plants. Having decided the outline of your beds, remove the soil a good spade's depth, with all its attached vegetation, to some convenient spot immediately contiguous to your operations, then cart away from eighteen inches to two feet of the remaining soil, well breaking up the bottom, or trenching it eighteen inches would be better still. Upon this cast in the surface soil previously removed, well chopping it with the spade as the work proceeds; filling up with a sufficient quantity of prepared soil, that after settling down, it shall be a few inches below the natural surface. During dry weather, after the beds are planted, the surface should be kept constantly stirred with the hoe and rake, for the double purpose of preventing the growth of weeds, and, by maintaining a smooth surface, retarding evaporation. Should an excessive dry season occur, the whole surface of newly planted beds may with advantage be covered with the short grass from the lawns; it will at least prevent the necessity of a frequent use of the watering pot, the application of which, in all out-door gardening, is "more honoured in the breach than in the observance." If the beds are situated in the neighbourhood of trees, they are sure to be invaded by a legion of roots, which, if allowed unmolested possession, will in a few seasons appropriate the whole of what you had intended for your favourites. But as we recommend American plants in such situations to be replanted and the soil trenched to a depth of two feet, every autumn, and every third or fourth year, the whole mass of soil trenched to the

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bottom, there will not be much to fear upon that point; and the mass of soil, by being constantly rendered permeable to the autumn rains, will always contain a large amount of moisture. There need be no fear of the plants suffering from removal, as rhododendrons can be transplanted with perfect safety, even after they have attained an immense size, and particularly so when they have constantly been subjected to such treatment.

Standish & Noble's Catalogue.

RATS are at all times unwelcome visiters, and destroy much of the produce of a garden, besides burrowing beneath the foundations of buildings. We think the following means of keeping them out of barns, granaries, mills, houses, &c. may not prove unacceptable. Mr. G. Parkin, whose mill at Sneinton, near Nottingham, was formerly much infested with these destructive vermin, excavated the soil as low as the foundation of the walls, forming a trench about a foot wide all round; he then carted a quantity of refuse from the gas works, and filled it up. Since that time (a period of twelve years), he has not had a rat in his mill; and he declared to us, a short time ago, that this simple expedient had saved him many pounds. Perhaps this hint may be worth something to our readers who may be similarly situated.

ANALYSIS OF GOOSEBERRIES OF 1850.

ON receiving the *Gooseberry Grower's Register*, for 1850, I drew the following computation of nine of the heaviest berries in each class, weighed in at the different meetings throughout England,—the number of prizes won, the number of times each sort has weighed 20dwts. and upwards, and the heaviest weight each sort has attained. If it is worthy of a

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small space in the *Midland Florist*, you can make what use you think proper of it.

R. MOORLEY.

Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire.

Names and Colour.	Number of Prizes won.	Number of Times 20dwts. & upwards.	Heaviest Weight.	
			dwt.	gr.
RED.				
London	279	99	27	10
Companion	253	26	25	4
Wonderful	159	34	23	5
Conquering Hero	140	24	22	19
Slaughterman	129	14	23	8
Lion's Provider	99	9	25	0
Guido	70	1	23	0
King Cole	34	2	24	0
Ricardo	4	3	23	12
YELLOW.				
Leader	235	18	24	14
Catherina	225	44	26	4
Peru	93	3	21	14
Pilot	85	4	21	11
Dublin	48	1	23	12
Gunner	38	1	22	1
Two-to-One	37	3	21	23
Game Cock	11	1	22	2
Teazer	8	1	23	0
GREEN.				
Thumper	238	20	23	8
Queen Victoria	131	5	22	0
Rough Green	42	2	21	5
Gretna Green	37	2	21	5
Random Green	23	2	21	0
Green Wonderful	16	1	21	10
Weathercock	73	2	20	4
Turnout	129	..	19	21
General	114	..	19	18
WHITE.				
Freedom	264	39	25	20
Queen of Trumps	157	3	24	0
Lady Leicester	121	6	22	10
Snowball	92	1	22	15
Snowdrop	68	3	22	4
Tallyho	63	3	21	8
Lady Stanley	69	2	20	11
Cossack	44	2	20	23
Jenny Lind	4	1	21	0

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HEAVIEST BERRY IN EACH CLASS.

		dwt.	gr.
	RED.		
London, grown by J.	, Woodstock, Oxford....	27	10
	YELLOW.		
Catherina, grown by G. Addis, Ounsdale		26	4
	GREEN.		
Thumper, grown by G. Addis, Ounsdale.....		23	8
	WHITE.		
Freedom, grown by J. Boardman, Bow Lee, Lancashire		25	20

FOUR OF THE HEAVIEST SEEDLINGS IN EACH CLASS.

RED.	dwt.	gr.	GREEN.	dwt.	gr.
J. Brotherton's Monarch	26	3	F. Swift's Botherem ..	20	0
Joseph Brotherton's ..	21	6	Mr. Addis's.....	18	0
W. Walker's Clayton..	21	3	E. Poulson's Telegraph	17	0
G. Webster's Lord Stanley	20	1	C. Dennis's.....	17	18
YELLOW.			WHITE.		
J. Brotherton's	24	10	Joseph Brotherton's ..	21	7
J. Leicester's Go-by ..	23	12	J. Brotherton's	20	17
G. Webster's Legerdemain	20	0	G. Crompton's	20	4
T. Cook's.....	19	8	J. Hilton's	19	20

PRESERVING FRUITS FOR WINTER USE.—(From the *Horticulturist*, an American work.)—Send to your tinsmith, and get a sufficient number of tin canisters, very carefully and tightly made. They should be of uniform size, and the shape preferred here is seven inches high, by five inches in diameter—uniform cylinders. Select the fairest fruit—peaches, strawberries, or what you please. It should be *just* ripe, but not past the mature stage. Fill the canisters, place the tin lids on the tops, and solder them down very carefully. Only a small hole, of the size of a pin, should be left for the escape of air. The next point is to drive the air out of the canister of fruit, to prevent its decay. In order to do this, take a broad boiler pan (with a flat bottom), place the canisters in it, and fill it with boiling water, within about three-fourths of an inch of the tops of the canisters. The boiler being over a gentle fire, the

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water in it should now be made to boil. This will drive the air in each canister through the small hole left in the top, as soon as the temperature reaches two hundred degrees, and in order to know precisely when it is all expelled, you must drop a few drops of water upon this hole; when the bubbles of air cease rising through these drops of water, the air is all expelled, and then you may pass a dry cloth over the hole, and let a drop of solder fall upon it. This seals the canister up hermetically, so that the fruit will remain unchanged for a couple of years, or longer. The immersion of the cans in the boiling water does not impart the slightest taste of their having been cooked to the fruit. The canisters of fruit should be left in a cool place. When wanted for use, unsolder the tops with a hot iron, and the fresh fruit is ready—*having been perfectly preserved, without the aid of sugar or brandy.*

CACTUSES.—A friend, writing to us, the other day, from Guernsey, says, "For window, or cool greenhouse, few things do better with me. I grow the C. Eyresii, C. sulcatus, and C. clariformis, or multiplex, the most beautiful of the tribe. They are already showing bloom, and give me from six to twelve flowers each, in succession, every year; and two years since, I sent to one of our exhibitions, a plant of C. multiplex (figured in Curtis), with fourteen blooms expanded at the same time, which I think was the finest thing I ever saw. The C. Eyresii, you are aware, is also fragrant. Last year, I bloomed for the first time in the island, Luccombe and Pince's Cereus crenatus, said to be as good as the Night-blooming Cereus; but it is not so. The colours are somewhat similar, and as a variety it is well worth having. It also appears to bloom freely, as my plant already shows a dozen blossoms." Information like the above will be highly interesting to many of our readers, especially to those who cultivate window plants, and we wish our friends would send us similar

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hints and observations. Many of them may fancy they cannot write an article fit to be published. Let them try. Hundreds have opportunities of observation that we have not, and we are most anxious to collect horticultural and floricultural facts.

A PROFITABLE WINDOW BLIND.—Some people have very pretty plants in their windows, which, by care and attention, succeed admirably. Walking, the other day, towards the Trent-bridge, near Nottingham, we were much pleased to see a vine which had been introduced through a hole in the wall of a house, and the branches trained across the window, so as to form a natural blind. The foliage was green and healthy, and several bunches of fine well-coloured black grapes (Hamburgh) were pendent amongst it. Many cottagers could do the same thing, and their productions, doubtless, would be favourably noticed and rewarded, at the horticultural societies in their neighbourhood. Our readers who have a suitable window might try this interesting experiment.

TO DESTROY MOTHS AND INSECTS WHICH FLY BY NIGHT.—They are destroyed in large numbers by the following mode, first discovered by Victor Adouin, of France. A flat saucer or vessel is set on the ground, in which is placed a light, partially covered with a common bell-glass, besmeared with oil. All the small moths are directly attracted by the light, fly towards it, and in their attempts to get at it, are either caught by the glutinous sides of the bell-glass or fall into the basin of oil beneath, and in either case, soon perish. M. Adouin applied this to the destruction of the pyralis, a moth that is very troublesome in the French vineyards. With two hundred of these lights, in a vineyard of four acres, and in a single night, thirty thousand of these moths were killed, and found dead on or about the vessels.

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By continuing this process through the season, it was estimated that he had destroyed moths sufficient to have produced a progeny of over a million of caterpillars. In our orchards, myriads of insects may be destroyed by lighting small bonfires of shavings, or any refuse brush; and in the districts where the apples are much worm-eaten, if repeated two or three nights, at the proper season, this is a very cheap and efficient mode of getting rid of the moth which causes so much mischief. Dr. Harris, knowing how important it is to destroy the caterpillar in the moth state, has recommended flambeaux, made of tow, wound round a stake, and dipped in tar, to be stuck in the fruit garden, at night, and lighted. Thousands of moths will meet with speedy death, even in the short time these flambeaux are burning. The melon bug may be extirpated by myriads, in the same way.—*Downing's Fruits of America.*

PLAN OF GROWING STRAWBERRIES ADOPTED BY MR. MYATT, BY WHICH MEANS VERY FINE FRUIT IS OBTAINED.—A piece of ground having been prepared by manuring and deep trenching, it is marked out into four feet beds, with fifteen inch alleys between. In these alleys, either in the autumn, or early in the spring, a row of strong plants is planted, and the beds are cropped with summer lettuce. As the strawberry plants progress in growth, the young plants from the runners are carefully layered amongst the lettuces, taking care to get them established as early in the season as possible. Thus the plants become unusually strong, and, under proper management, produce crops of very large fruit.

CROSS-BREEDING LILIES.—We have often pointed out the very beautiful Japan lilies as desirable plants to hybridize, and as "example is better than precept," we will tell our readers how far we have gone.

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We had a fine stem of Lilium punctatum, with eleven splendid flowers on it. We extracted the anthers from four of these flowers, before the farina had escaped; and the next day we procured some anthers from the Tiger Lily, the common, though beautiful sort, grown in our gardens. The farina was in a proper state, and we applied it carefully to the stigmas of the blooms from which the anthers were extracted. We have now four pods of seed, as large as walnuts, of those which were crossed, whilst not one of the seven which were not operated upon have produced a pod; thus evidencing how "art may assist nature." We anticipate something beautiful from this cross. The progeny, we trust, we shall be able to report on, some day. In the meantime, if any of our readers have made experiments of a similar character, we hope they will communicate them.

CELERY SHOW, open to all England, held at the house of Mr. T. Oxley, Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield, Oct. 13. The celery to be blanched six inches on the outside. Thirty-six exhibiters.—The 1st prize was awarded to G. Marsden, for Nutt's Champion; 2nd. J. Nutt, for ditto; 3rd. J. Holden, ditto: 4th. W. Benn, ditto. Three-fourths of the remaining thirty-two were Nutt's Champion. There have been three other shows, and in them it was equally successful. The heaviest root this year, has been grown by T. Green, of Nepsend. It weighed nine pounds.

GROWING POTATOES FROM SLIPS.—Observing your hint about growing potatoes from slips or shoots, in vol. iii, page 280, I tried the experiment. Last February, I planted a potato whole. When it came up the first time, it was frozen off, but it soon put up numerous shoots, which I cut off, and planted in a trench. I left the potato in the ground, and it put

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forth more shoots, which I cut off and planted. It sent up shoots a third time, and these I also planted out in like manner. I shaded the slips, watered them a little, and earthed them up. Most of the tubers were a good size; fourteen of them weighed eight pounds, and the others were fine. I got twenty-two pounds in the whole, from one potato, which, I thought, paid me for my trouble.—I. F.

REVIEWS.

BECK'S FLORIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY, No. 35.

OCCELATUM and *May Queen* are the two very beautiful pelargoniums depicted in the present number. We have before alluded to them, therefore it would be superfluous to add more at present. The contents are very interesting. There is an article on roses, much to our taste, from which we will presently cull a few ideas; the Dahlia Season and its Result; a nice gossipping article about the Paris Flower-market; notice of our friend Willison's garden, roses, &c. at Whitby, Yorkshire. Amongst the other novelties cultivated here is a dwarf dahlia. Mr. Woodhouse says, "Amongst the floral curiosities, I may first mention a seedling dahlia of very dwarf habit, which has attracted much attention. Mr. Willison now possesses about a dozen plants of this truly singular production, the tallest of which does not exceed ten inches in height, and several of them are not more than six inches, and yet flowering in this dwarf state. What may we not expect from the dahlia! Some say we may grow and exhibit dahlias in pots, as we do auriculas; others state that we shall now be furnished with plants of the dahlia for our smallest compartments, even for our Wardian cases.

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How much of this will be realized, time alone will reveal; at any rate, the variety to which I allude is as complete a Lilliputian as ever was created by Chinese art."

Further on, Mr. Woodhouse observes, relative to Mr. Willison's seedling roses—and which ought to encourage hundreds of others to "go and do likewise;" for if Mr. W. can add so many new varieties to our stock of these ornamental plants, in a more than commonly uncongenial situation, might not others do the same?—"From a conversation which took place a few days ago, between Messrs. Rivers and Mr. Willison, some interesting facts were elicited in reference to raising seedling roses. Whilst remarking on the Weeping Rose, the Crested Moss, Miniature Moss, and other roses raised at this nursery, Mr. Rivers expressed his surprise that seed could be obtained in such an (apparently) unpropitious locality. To which Mr. Willison replied, that he was never at a loss for seed, but, like his neighbours, he had often failed in causing it to vegetate. Amongst those from which he had anticipated the most (but without success), was Smith's Yellow Noisette, impregnated with Curled Crested Moss (Willison). From other varieties, such as Madame Laffay, Proserpine, W. Jesse, Madame Desprez, and others, he had succeeded in raising some scores of seedlings, exhibiting in many instances, the greatest dissimilarity from the parent, especially those from Rose ruga, though some of its offspring certainly were like the parent. But one-half at least were stated to be true tea or China roses; and one in particular, King of Ayrshires (Willison), with very durable marone flowers, is most like a climbing gallica. Also those obtained from the old China exhibited, if possible, a greater diversity of character: some were like sweetbriars, others were smooth and flexible in their shoots, resembling the Boursault, blooming only as summer roses; whilst the rest were Chinas, Climbing Noisettes,

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&c.; and from this heterogenous breed was obtained a rich strawberry-scented pillar rose, the Governor (Willison). It is still more singular, that from summer roses have been obtained the most decided perpetual roses, not of the character that would class with Madame Laffay, Baron Prevost, Dr. Marx, Duchess of Sutherland, &c. but such as ought to be classed with Clementine Duval, as they differ only from China and tea, in having stems thickly clad with spines, and a somewhat rougher leaf. Of such are Willison's Omniflora, sometimes striped like a crimson and scarlet ranunculus; Lady Lucy Smith, a rose highly commended in the *Midland Florist*, not then named; and Fulgens, hybrid perpetual, which, in form and brilliancy of colour, is identical with the old favourite summer rose of that name, but which differs from it in the very desirable quality of being an ever-bloomer, blooming under glass from January to December. This rose is highly odoriferous, and has been favourably noticed during the season, by the *Florist*, *Midland Florist*, and other publications."

Our readers will perceive what an interesting number this is. We are glad to find that Mr. Beck is going to add horticultural information to the other departments of which his work treats. This, we have no doubt, will materially increase its utility.

THE GARDENER'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY. Part 10.

THE illustrations are a beautiful seedling begonia, raised in her Majesty's gardens, at Frogmore, by Mr. Ingram; *Acantholimon glumacea*, a very pretty little alpine herbaceous plant, with bristly foliage and pink flowers, which we have been in the habit of calling *Statice Araratii*, or *Mount Ararat Thrift*; a splendid seedling variety of *Gladiolus natalensis*, raised at Mr. Wilmore's, near Birmingham; *Franciscea eximea*, a very fine new stove plant, with

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shaded purple flowers; and a plate of three carnations, exhibited at Derby, namely, *Puxley's Emperor* and *Jenny Lind*, and *Barringer's Duke of Devonshire*, scarlet flake. We do not think the last-named flower is done justice to; the petals in the upper part of the figure lie one over the other, showing several more on that side than on the lower. The flower looks as if it would have been all the better for a little of Mr. Barringer's skill in "dressing," before the artist had made his drawing. The wood-cuts, as usual, are very good, and the letter-press is of a useful and miscellaneous character. We extract the following notice of a new variety of carrot, called the White Transparent:—"The permanence of certain varieties of plants, commonly classed among esculents, is too generally believed. This exaggerated, not to say erroneous, opinion has been prejudicial to all attempts to improve particular vegetables. In the carrot for instance, the variety having a white skin would seem to have been condemned for ever: except perhaps the white carrot of Brenteuil. Yes, it is clear, that we do not know the innumerable atmospheric influences, as well as those which relate to situation and soil, all which may considerably ameliorate or improve the types of our commonest vegetables. With this view, Mr. Barthel, sen., of Mulhouse, has lately succeeded in raising a very interesting novelty, in the form of a *white transparent carrot*. It only resembles the other white varieties in size. It is distinguished by its roots being of moderate length, its earliness, and especially by having the appearance of pure white wax, overlaid with a coating of shining varnish. Its leaves are short, and finely cut; the collar formed by the stalks of the leaves is slender, and inserted in a deep cavity. In point of flavour, it comes near the red varieties,—a circumstance that will render the transition between the red and those commonly called white more natural."

From Mr. Cole's article on Cross-breeding and Culture of the Gladioli, we extract the following very

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excellent directions for raising seedlings:—"In raising seedlings in an ordinary way, I should recommend sowing the seed early in the spring, in a cold frame, say about March, protecting the frame from frost, and keeping it shut up for a fortnight or three weeks: in the mean time withhold water, there being sufficient humidity in the soil, at that season, to advance the early stages of the development of the seed; this caution is of importance at this critical period, after which, however, water may be given as circumstances may require. The frame must be kept close, giving air by degrees, as the season advances, and stimulating them with heat as much as possible, consistent with the natural habits of the plant, in order to make the bulbs as large as possible the first season; this will be the means of inducing them to bloom in two years from the seed, which is a desideratum. If they are planted the second season in a frame, and slightly excited in the spring, the frame being afterwards taken away, and the little wants of the plants, as water, &c., attended to, many of them will unfold their beauties in the course of the autumn."

The Journal of the Horticultural Society. Part 4, vol. 5.

This very excellent work contains some papers of the greatest interest; amongst others—On the Himalayan Conifers; On retarding the Blooming of Fruit Trees, &c. From A Chapter in the History of Hybrid Rhododendrons, by Messrs. Noble & Standish, we extract the following, which we are sure will be read with much zest by many of our readers. It is relative to the hybridization of these plants. "As so little is known in connection with the nature and effect of hybridizing amongst plants, we shall take this opportunity of endeavouring to describe, with reference to the rhododendron, some of the peculiarities which a very extensive practice has presented to

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us. We find that, analogous to what is observed in the animal kingdom, the greater the cross the more healthy the progeny, and that breeding "in and in" produces weak and deteriorated constitutions. We have a remarkable instance of this in a batch of hybrids raised from Caucassicum album (that being a hybrid) fertilized by its own pollen. The plants are extremely dwarf, with variegated foliage; so dwarf are they that many of them had eight or ten flower buds on when only from four to six inches high, and four years old. They, however, bloomed quite freely when only three years old, and about as many inches high. Flowers produced by these dwarfs were again fertilized by their own farina, and although seeds were produced and vegetated, the plants could not be kept alive; but after various durations of existence, from two to eighteen months, they finally disappeared. One of the dwarfs above-named, which we have called Bride, fertilized with the pollen from another distinct hybrid, has, however, produced some very healthy seedlings. A remarkable example of the varied nature which hybridizing effects in the rhododendron, is afforded in a hybrid raised from R. catawbiense, by a large yellow Ghent azalea. The object was to raise a hardy yellow hybrid, but in this we have been disappointed, as it has proved to be pink, and we have named it Deception. It is an extraordinary cross; we never recollect meeting with so decided a sport. It resembles neither of its parents, being one of our best growers, with foliage large and thick, of a bright green; and when in a young state, it has the appearance of being coated with varnish. Another remarkable sport is a hybrid, which we have called Towardii, raised from Catawbiense, by Alta clarense, being a perfect giant in every respect. The foliage is very fine, and the flowers, both individually and in the truss, remarkably large, each forming a perfect cup. We know no rhododendron equal to it in size and perfection of flowers."

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RENDLE'S PRICE CURRENT AND GARDEN DIRECTORY FOR 1851.

WE spoke in terms of much approval of the very excellent descriptive list of seeds issued by the eminent firm of Rendle & Co. of Plymouth, last season. This year they have favoured us with one on a much larger and improved scale. It consists of twenty-four quarto pages, in which is given a most complete descriptive list of garden and agricultural seeds. Also a carefully prepared catalogue of annual and other flower seeds, with scientific name, hardiness and duration, colour, height in feet, time of flowering, &c. There is also much useful information in other matters connected with gardening, besides a very excellent calendar of operations. We see that all flower seeds are sent free by post, and we certainly trust that Messrs. Rendle & Co. will meet with that increased patronage which their efforts to diffuse sound information on floricultural subjects so well deserve. We also notice that they are offering two prizes of £5 5s. each, to be competed for by gentlemen's gardeners only, for the best essay on "the cultivation and the general management of a kitchen garden, with descriptions of the best vegetables;" and the best essay "on communicating heat to horticultural buildings." Messrs. Rendle, we think, could not do better than have a small model of their tank system of heating at the exhibition of 1851. A spirit lamp, we imagine, would heat the water very well, and to thousands of amateurs the opportunity of thus seeing the practical working of the thing would be highly gratifying.

OBITUARY.

ON the 22nd of October, MR. JAMES HARDMAN, aged 78 years, one of the best growers of the polyanthus and auricula in Lancashire. For forty-seven years he cultivated the tulip, and was a most successful competitor.

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Part III.

QUERIES.

As the rhubarb show reported in your July number took place at Nottingham, perhaps you might, in your next number, give me some information as to how Mr. Hall, or some other of the competitors cultivate their plants, and *how many stalks they grow on one root*. I think such information would prove very acceptable to a good number of your readers, both those who cultivate it for exhibition and those who cultivate it for household use. A READER.

Would you be so kind as to inform me how you count up the properties and faults of a tulip? The great growers in this part of the country tell me that a tulip with a good bottom and form, no matter how bad it breaks, with respect to feather or flame, has only one fault; whilst a tulip with a stained bottom and long cup has two bad faults, no matter how well it is marked, it has only one good property; and therefore the former is a decided beat. Whatever is your opinion, you would oblige me by giving it,

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

As I see in various catalogues and periodicals, pelargoniums called geraniums, and geraniums called pelargoniums, and as I cannot find what is the exact difference between them, will you, in your next, explain the difficulty, and point out the distinctions between the two?

H. M. G., A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

I have a plant of the Sweet-scented Mandeville (Mandevilla suaveolens), which I got last spring, trained to the rafters of my greenhouse. It has grown luxuriantly. Is it hardy enough for such a situation, in which no more heat is used than merely to exclude frost? Will Begonia fuchsioides and Hoya Bella stand the winter, in the same house? Is it over-late now to pot Andromeda florabunda and Deutzia scabra, to flower in the greenhouse, in the spring? I have a box of gladiolus seedlings, which are still growing: should they be encouraged to grow, or gradually dried off? S. H. I.

[The Mandevilla, Begonia, and Hoya prefer a warm greenhouse, but will doubtless be preserved through the winter in the situation alluded to. By all means encourage the seedling gladioli to grow. By adopting such a plan, Mr. Cole, who has raised some fine varieties, flowers them in two years from the seed.]

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

—◆—

IVY.—There is a diversity of opinion as to this climbing plant injuring trees. We are of opinion that it does. Like R. F., we should not be inclined to destroy it.

ORCHARD TREES COVERED WITH MOSS.—R. MASON.—This arises from the soil being too wet. The best plan will be to drain the land deeply.

A YOUNG FLORIST inquires why flowers have two names. It happens in various ways. Sometimes a sort is rechristened because its original name is unknown to the party who grows it—he therefore names it. Breeder tulips are sometimes sold without name or number, therefore, whoever breaks them gives a designation of his own, in absence of the proper one. It sometimes happens, however, that it is done for mercenary purposes, and is then highly reprehensible.

I. L. asks for the names of twelve pretty low-growing perennials. Aquilega glandulosa, Dodecatheon elegans, Anemone japonica hybrida, Campanula barbata, Delphinium magnifica, Pentstemon Mac Ewanii, Cherianthus Marshallianus, Dianthus nanus, Potentilla Tonguii, Gallardia picta nana, Sisyrinchium grandiflorum, Phlox speciosisima nana. These are all very beautiful perennials.

Another correspondent wishes for a few of the best climbing roses. Here they are. King of Ayrshires, marone purple; Amadis, crimson; Felicite, blush white; Boursault elegans, bright pink; Adelaide d'Orleans, cream, with slight pink centre; and Celina. This last is a very robust Bourbon, foliage very large and shining, flowers semidouble, but of great size, and produced in immense clusters.

URINE, TO ABSORB.—A Constant Subscriber requires the best method to absorb urine. There is only one satisfactory answer can be given, and as the same question was put to me a few days ago, the same answer will be returned. Let him form a small dung heap, with about equal quantities of horse and cow dung, say two loads of each; let these be formed in alternate layers into a neat shape, and provision made at bottom for collecting all the liquor which drains from it into an old cask, or other vessel, to be sunk into the ground; and as soon as these preliminaries have been got through, the process of absorbing the urine may take place, simply by pouring it over the top of the heap, and thus passing through a *moist* and *heated* medium, the urea contained in the urine is converted into a fixed salt (carbonate of am-

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monia). As the cask fills up by infiltration from the bottom, let it again be thrown over the top. Thus a continual process of decomposition may be kept up, and not one particle of the valuable constituents of urine, as a fertilizing agent, will be lost. These salts may also be obtained separate from any other manure, by treating the urine with sulphuric acid until effervescence ceases, thereby expelling the carbonic acid, and leaving a solution of the sulphate of ammonia, which may be partly evaporated and crystalized. This method, however, is more expensive, and as the whole of the salts are secured by the former method, the latter is rendered the less necessary. While speaking of manures, I would advise not only your subscriber, but every one who has an opportunity, to procure a cask of ammoniacal liquor from gas works; and this, mixed with about eight times its own bulk of water, will form one of the best manures that can be applied to a garden, for those plants in which a large assimilation of nitrogen is necessary for their growth and development.

CHEMICUS FLORUM.

In answer to the query of "A Working Man," in your number for October, I send the following receipt for coltsfoot wine. I can vouch for its excellence. To one gallon of blooms put four gallons of water, boiling hot; let it stand till cold, then drain it off, and add three pounds of moist sugar to each gallon; boil it till clear, then put it into a tub, and when nearly cold, put in the peelings of one orange and one lemon to each gallon, with a little yeast; let it stand three or four days, then put it into a cask, with the juice of the oranges and lemons; close it up, let it stand three or four months, then bottle it, and put a lump of sugar into each bottle.

J. R.

Seeing in your valuable little work, the *Midland Florist*, a correspondent asking for a few domestic receipts, I take the pleasure of sending the following, which I have proved to be excellent, wholesome, and economical.

Take one pound of carrots, one pound of potatoes, one pound of flour, half a pound of currants, half a pound of beef suet. Let the carrots be boiled whole; when done, take them out, and rub off the outer coat with a coarse cloth. If you scrape them before boiling, you will lose the sweetness they possess. Let your potatoes be peeled before cooking; when done, mash them along with the carrots. The flour, suet, and currants being all prepared and mixed in readiness, add them to the potatoes and carrots. All being well mixed together, put into the pudding bag, with a lump of butter, as near in the middle as you can; tie up, boil three hours, and serve.

RHUBARB PRESERVES.—Take four pounds of rhubarb, washed clean and dried with a cloth; then cut into small pieces, put into the oven, with two pounds and a half of lump sugar, in

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an earthenware jar. Let them simmer gently, until the watery juices are all evaporated out of the rhubarb, or the preserves will ferment and not keep; this will be known by the syrup beginning to candy. Then put into jars, tie down with bladder, and put aside for use. It should be remembered that the rhubarb should not be peeled, or you lose the flavour; it should never be peeled for any purpose.

H. B. BRYAN, *Surgeon.*

Sutton-in-Ashfield.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR DECEMBER.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

LITTLE can be done, except pruning, digging, trenching. &c. Some people do not prune their *gooseberry trees* till near spring, for it sometimes happens that if pruned now, several of the leading buds on each shoot are destroyed by birds. The bullfinch is peculiarly mischievous in this respect; but we think the active little tomtit (Parus cœruleus) is more in quest of insects than buds. It is a good time, when the weather is open, to plant all sorts of *fruit trees.* We wish *pyramidal plums* were planted more than they are (see an article on trees of this description, in the present number). *Wall trees* also may be nailed; though standing by a wall side for hours, in cold windy weather, is far from being a treat. When trees of this description are over-luxuriant, and during summer make much breast wood, give them, as we have before recommended, a good root-pruning.

If the amateur has any *rhubarb* of inferior quality, let him dig up the roots, with some soil attached, and place them in the cellar, in rich light soil. A crop of blanched stalks may thus be obtained, after which the roots may be thrown away. Crop the land from whence they came, after being manured, with something else, and make a plantation of improved varieties in another part of the garden. We should, as far as we have yet seen, give the preference to Victoria and Linnæus. We hope to be able to report on the following sorts during the coming spring and summer:—Fox's King Alfred, Bailey's Monarch and Wonder, Jamesii, Sanguinea, White Perfection, and Lee's Seedling.

Where people have the means, they may, towards the end of the month, sow a few *beans* and *peas.* We have found that by rubbing the latter with powdered resin, they have, in a great measure, escaped the ravages of mice. In severe weather, it is

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advisable to protect *celery, lettuce, endive,* &c., with litter. Pea haulm is an excellent material for this purpose.

GREENHOUSE AND FRAME.

It will be advisable to give air as much as possible, and to be sparing of water. Keep the plants free from filth, remove all decayed leaves, and occasionally stir the surface soil of the pots with a wooden peg. Where *vines* are trained over the plants, they may, in weather when little else can be done out of doors, be pruned, and the dead or loose bark peeled off. Cut each spur on the rod down to an eye, bearing in mind that the *vine* never bears twice on the same wood, and that the bunches of fruit are produced on the young wood of the current year's growth.

FLOWER GARDEN.

If not done before, transplant and divide all *bulbous plants*, such as crown imperials, lilies, snowdrops, narcissuses, &c. This should have been done sooner, but many people who have small gardens, wait till they have their gardens done up. What a good thing is Shackell's Superb Russian Violet! We have a bed of it now (Nov. 20) in full bloom, with larger flowers than the old one, and longer stalks, standing well up above the foliage. It is powerfully fragrant.

Leaves should now be raked off, and placed in some secluded corner, and to this heap may be added all other vegetable refuse. This, when decayed and mixed with some river sand, is a treasure to small gardeners, and in fact to large ones also. Small *evergreens*, in pots, ought now to be plunged over the rims in beds in front of houses, on lawns, &c. Laurestinuses, aucubas, red cedars, Irish, Swedish, and Chinese junipers, are good things for this purpose. They can be easily removed in spring.

Auriculas, during the month, will require but little water, but abundance of air. If the weather proves mild they will throw an occasional truss of blooms. These may be nipped off; but it is advisable not to injure the stem, as it often rots, and endangers the safety of the plants. Mice are apt, at this season, to injure *polyanthuses* in frames, by nibbling them; they must be caught. *Carnations*, like *auriculas*, want but little water. Never close the frames when the foliage is wet. *Pinks* and *pansies*, if lately planted, will want looking after, being apt to be drawn out of the soil by worms, and in frosty weather to be thrown out of the ground by its effects.

Dahlia roots should occasionally be looked at, as they contract mouldiness in damp situations. Rowland's metallic wire, with small labels, made of a slip of deal, rubbed with white lead, on which to write the name with a pencil, are the best things for marking the roots previous to storing them away.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. E. Heapy, the Oak Inn, Stockport, June 29.

Premier Prizes.—1. Mango, Sturge, Mary, W. Smith. 2. Duke, Dr. Hepworth, Mary, S. Brown. 3. Greensides, Sturge, Mary, G. Greaves. 4. Duke, Dr. Hepworth, Mary, M. Thompson.

Purple-laced.

1 Duke, T. Simpson.
2 Huntsman, H. Brown.
3 Greensides, D. Robinson.
4 R. Cobden, W. Smith.
5 Mango, S. Brown.
6 Blackeyed Susan, M. Thompson.
7 True Blue, D. Robinson.
8 Suarrow, S. Brown.

Red-laced.

1 Sturge, M. Thompson.
2 Sir William, H. Brown.
3 Susanna, W. Smith.
4 Dreadnought, ditto.
5 Dr. Hepworth, W. Smith.
6 Little Wonder, ditto.
7 Elizabeth, M. Thompson.
8 Rachael, H. Brown.

Black and White.

1 Mary, H. Brown.
2 Union, W. Brown.
3 Boldhaughton, S. Brown.
4 Snowball, G. Greaves.
5 Clayton-le-Moor, W. Smith.
6 Harriet, S. Brown.
7 Overall, G. Greaves.
8 Virgin Queen, ditto.

PINK SHOW,

At the Crown Inn, Nottingham.

Purple-laced.

Premier Prize.—Duke of Northumberland, B. Nix.
1 Headley's Duke of Northumberland, B. Nix.
2 Jones's Huntsman, ditto.
3 Bramma's Surplice, ditto.
4 Dreadnought, ditto.
5 Bunkell's Queen Victoria, I. C. Wasnidge.

Red-laced.

Premier Prize—Joseph Sturge, B. Nix.
1 Joseph Sturge, B. Nix.
2 Susanna, B. Nix.
3 Tom Long, ditto.
4 Belzoni, I. C. Wasnidge.
5 Marris's Rosalind, ditto.

Black and White.

Premier Prize—Blackeyed Susan, I. C. Wasnidge.
1 Blackeyed Susan, I. C. Wasnidge.
2 Miss Jessop, ditto.
3 Snowball, ditto.
4 Superior, ditto.
5 White Rock. B. Nix.

CARNATION SHOW,

At Ounsdale, Aug 5.

Premier Prize.—Pan of Seven Blooms —Duke of Sutherland, Gladiator, William IV., Brisies, Beauty of Woodhouse, Portia, and Duchess of Cambridge, Mr. Baylis.

Best Single Bloom.—Beauty of Woodhouse, J. Addis.

Best Seedling Carnation.—Reuben (P.B.), J. Elliott.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Hepworth's True Briton, Baylis.
2 Easom's Admiral Curzon, ditto.
3 Ely's Lord Pollington, G. Addis.
4 Baker's Prince of Wales, ditto.
5 Hale's Prince Albert, ditto.
6 Elliott's Dr. Newton, ditto.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Gregory's King Alfred, G. Addis.
2 May's Edgar, Baylis.
3 Hastings's Rainbow, J. Elliott.
4 Ely's Lord Milton, J. Elliott.
5 Mansley's Robert Burns, ditto.
6 Seedling, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Addenbrooke's Lydia, Baylis.
2 Haines's Defiance, ditto.
3 Potter's Champion, ditto.
4 Chadwick's Brilliant, ditto.
5 Wilson's William IV., G. Addis.
6 Fletcher's Beauty of Birmingham, J. Elliott.

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Purple Flakes.

1 Mansley's Beauty of Woodhouse, Baylis.
2 Hufton's Blue Ribbon, ditto.
3 Jackson's Squire Trow, G. Addis.
4 Brabbin's Squire Meynell, Baylis.
5 Elliott's Queen Esther, J. Elliott.
6 Pollard's Firstrate, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

1 Ely's Lady Ely, G. Addis.
2 May's Ariel, Baylis.
3 Elliott's Martha, G. Addis.
4 Tomlyn's Brisies, Baylis.
5 Wilson's Harriet, ditto.
6 Hyron's Victoria, G. Addis.

PICOTEES.

Best Seedling Picotee.—Mary (P. P.), J. Elliott.

Rose.

1 Duchess of Cambridge, G. Addis.
2 Youell's Gem, ditto.
3 Edmonds's Jenny Lind, Baylis.
4 Barnard's Mrs. Barnard, G. Addis.
5 Willmer's Princess Royal, ditto.
6 Wildman's Isabella, ditto.

Purple.

1 Sharpe's L'Elegante, Baylis.
2 May's Juliet, G. Addis.
3 May's Ann Page, Baylis.
4 May's Juno, ditto.
5 Ely's Favourite, ditto.
6 Matthews's Enchantress, G. Addis.

CARNATION SHOW,

At the Town Hall, Derby, August 7.

CARNATIONS.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Admiral Curzon, Lydia, True Briton, Squire Meynell, Queen of Purples, Calliban, Hero of Middlesex, Prince Albert, Oberon, Premier, Lovely Ann, and Firebrand, Adams. 2. Flora's Garland, Lord Milton, Othello (Dodwell), Premier, Seedling No. 7, Queen of Purples, Admiral Curzon, Seedling No. 23, Seedling No. 59, Ariel, Seedling No. 47, and Firebrand, E. Dodwell 3. Lord Rancliffe, Majestic, Duke of Bedford, Jenny Lind, Lady Ely, Holliday's Thomas Hewlett, Stephenson's Harriet, Admiral Curzon, General Bem, Vivid, Enchanter, and Mountaineer, Merryweather. 4. Wilson's William IV., Broughton's Sir Robert Peel, Easom's Rainbow, Lord Rancliffe, Lord Talbot, Wakefield's Paul Pry, Broughton's Joseph Strutt, Lovely Ann, Admiral Curzon, Beauty of Brighouse, Wood's William IV., and Princess Charlotte, W. Broughton 5. Tomlyn's Brisies, Admiral Curzon, Squire Meynell, Commander in-Chief, Hamlet, Lorenzo, Smith's Queen Victoria, Brutus, Lady of the Lake, Premier, Lord Rancliffe, and President, Messrs. Lakin and Son. 6. British Hero, Lord Talbot, Admiral Curzon, Martin's President, Unknown, Easom's Rainbow, Apollo, Wakefield's Paul Pry, Prince Albert, Chadwick's Brilliant, Wood's William IV., and Duke of Sutherland, J. Lowe. 7. Barringer's Premier, William IV., Seedling No. 4, Squire Meynell, Seedling No. 1, Seedling No. 17, Seedling No. 2, Firebrand, Unknown, Prince of Wales, Seedling No. 3, and Seedling, Parkinson.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Admiral Curzon, Adams.
2 Ditto, E. Dodwell.
3 Lord Rancliffe, Merryweather.
4 Admiral Curzon, E. Dodwell.
5 Ditto, ditto.

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Lord Milton, E. Dodwell.
2 Wood's William IV., Bayley.
3 Lord Milton, E. Dodwell.
4 Seedling, ditto.
5 Lord Milton, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Patriot, Adams.
2 Vivid, Merryweather.
3 Firebrand, E. Dodwell.
4 Mrs. Abney, ditto.
5 Lydia, Adams.

Purple Flakes.

1 Premier, E. Dodwell.
2 Squire Meynell, Adams.
3 Unknown, Slater.
4 Squire Meynell, Parkinson.
5 Premier, Adams.

Rose Flakes.

1 Lady Ely, E. Dodwell.
2 Oberon, Adams.
3 Flora's Garland, E. Dodwell.
4 Oberon, Adams.
5 Apollo, E. Dodwell.

PICOTEES.

Twelve Blooms.—1. Alfred, Mrs. Barnard, Duke of Rutland, Green's Queen, Juliet, Princess Royal, Prince of Wales, Princess Royal, Seedling No. 70, Isabella, Gem, and Venus, E. Dodwell. 2. Green's Victoria, Delicata, Miss Rosa, Princess Royal, Lady Franklin, Mrs. Barnard, Fairy Queen, Red Rover, Marris's Prince of Wales, Merryweather's Eliza, ditto Mrs. Wood, Turner's

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Lady H. Moore, Merryweather. 3. Wildman's Isabella, Mrs. Barnard, Seedling (Dodwell), Seedling (Dodwell), Fanny Irby, Duchess of Cambridge, Phœbe, Jenny Lind, Lorina, L'Elegante, and Princess Alice, Adams. 4. Marris's Prince Albert, Mrs. Barnard, Elegante, Isabella, Miss Rosa, Duchess of Bedford, Princess Royal, Queen Victoria, Sebastian, Green's Queen Victoria, Princess Alice, and Venus, Lakin and Son. 5. Portia, Mrs. Barnard, Duchess of Cambridge, President, Enchantress, Isabella, Mrs. Bevan, Princess Royal, Queen Victoria, Fanny Irby, Princess Alice, and Sir William Middleton, J. Lowe. 6. Seedling No. 9, Forget-me-Not, Portia, Parkinson's Mary Ann, Princess Alice, Isabella, Prince of Wales, Eliza, Seedling No. 8, Mrs. Desborough, Duke of Newcastle, and President, W. Parkinson. 7. Sir Wm. Middleton, Queen Victoria, Lady Alice Peel, Cook's President, Duke of Newcastle, Willmer's Princess Royal, Sebastian, President, Seedling, Jenny Lind, Princess Alice, and Enchantress, W. Broughton.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Duchess of Cambridge, Bayley.
2 Ditto, Adams.
3 Sebastian, E. Dodwell.
4 Mary Ann, Lakin and Son.
5 Duchess of Cambridge, Adams.

Light-edged Red.

1 Jenny Lind, E. Dodwell.
2 Seedling, ditto.
3 Jenny Lind, Adams.
4 Ditto, ditto.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Alfred, E. Dodwell.
2 Ditto, ditto.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Ditto, ditto.
5 Prince Albert, Lakin and Son.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Delicata, Merryweather.
2 Juliet, E. Dodwell.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Ditto, Adams.
5 Ditto, ditto.

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Venus, E. Dodwell.
2 Fanny Irby, Adams.
3 Venus, ditto.
4 Princess Royal, E. Dodwell.
5 Venus, Bayley.

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, Adams.
2 Ditto, E. Dodwell.
3 Ditto, ditto.
4 Miss Rosa, Merryweather.
5 Mrs. Barnard, E. Dodwell.

The prizes offered for the best Carnation and second best Carnation of any class, were obtained by Mr. Adams—the former with a splendid bloom of Admiral Curzon, the latter with Squire Meynell, extra good.

The same prizes for Picotees were awarded to E. Dodwell, for two splendid blooms of his seedling, Alfred (heavy purple), which also obtained a first-class certificate, and carried off four out of five prizes offered in the class; in fact, an award was made for every bloom exhibited.

Mr. Willmer, of Sunbury, exhibited a collection of yellow-ground Picotees, which were much admired, and obtained an extra award.

The Judges were—E. J. Lowe, Esq., Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Charles Turner, Mr. Marris, and Mr. Hollyoake.

CARNATION SHOW,

At the Broad Tree Inn, Ovenden, August 13.

Premier Prizes.—1, Zanga (seedling), purple flake, J. Chapman. 2. Shrogg's Beauty (seedling), purple picotee, J. Chapman.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Seedling No. 9, F. Marchant.
2 Seedling No. 6. ditto.
3 Admiral Curzon, J. Jackson.
4 Sir R. Peel, J. Smith.
5 Gatliff's Paladin, M. Mansley.
6 Windischgratz, J. Jackson.
7 Duke of Leeds, I. Clayton.
8 Leader, J. Smith.

Pink Bizarres.

1 Nulli Secundus, M. Mansley.
2 Wm. Caxton, R. Summercotes.
3 Lord Milton, ditto,
4 Misfortune, I. Clayton.
5 Seedling No. 16, F. Marchant.
6 Seedling No. 17, ditto.
7 Paul Pry, J. Smith.
8 Duke of Bedford, ditto.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Wilson's William IV., J. Chapman.
2 Seedling No. 20, F. Marchant.
3 Middleton Hero, I. Clayton.
4 Seedling No. 23, F. Marchant.
5 Beauty of Brighouse, M. Mansley.
6 Buckley's Scarlet, I. Clayton
7 Seedling No. 22, F. Marchant.
8 Seedling No. 26, ditto.

Purple Flakes.

1 Princess Charlotte, I. Clayton.
2 Miss Thornton, J. Smith.
3 Enclid, R. Summercotes.
4 Seedling No. 43, F. Marchant.

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5 Bellerophon, R Summercotes.
6 Mrs. Jepson (seedling), J. Jackson,
7 Seedling (won first at Dewsbury this year), J. Chapman.
8 Mango, J. Smith.

Pink Flakes.

1 Lady of the Manor (seedling), G. Baildon.
2 Constellation (seedling), G. Baildon.
3 Lady Ely, R. Summercotes.
4 Lady Gardiner, M. Mansley.
5 Seedling No. 32, F. Marchant.
6 Seedling No. 33, ditto.
7 Seedling No. 35, ditto.
8 Marchioness of Westminster, I. Clayton.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Duke of Wellington, I. Clayton.
2 Mrs Horner, ditto.
3 William the Conqueror, ditto.
4 Marc Antony, ditto.
5 Crispin, R. Summercotes.
6 Nonpareil, ditto.
7 Gatliff's Adeline, M. Mansley.
8 Headley's King James, J. Jackson.

Light-edged Red.

1 Mrs. Horner, G. Baildon.
2 Fanny Butler (seedling), J. Jackson.
3 Miss Binns (seedling), ditto.
4 Wells's Anacreon, ditto.
5 William the Conqueror, J. Smith.
6 Dreadnought (seedling), J. Jackson.
7 Countess de Grey, J. Smith.
8 Seedling, J. Jackson.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Fanante, J. Chapman.
2 Nulli Secundus, M. Mansley.
3 Field Marshal, ditto.
4 Seedling, I. Clayton.
5 Cross's Victoria, R. Summercotes.
6 Bride (seedling), J. Chapman.
7 La Martine (seedling), J. Jackson.
8 Pluperfect, M. Mansley.

Light-edged Purple.

1 Miss Lucy (seedling), J. Chapman.
2 Field Marshal, J. Smith.
3 Mrs. Rigley (seedling), J. Jackson.
4 Eliza Cook (seedling), ditto.
5 Miss Sarah (seedling), ditto.
6 Mary Lamb (seedling), ditto.
7 Pluperfect, M. Mansley.
8 La Martine (seedling), J. Jackson.

BRADFORD FLORAL SOCIETY,

At the house of Mr. T. Barber, Manor House, August 19.

Premier Prize.—Lady Ely, I. Clayton.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Sir R. Peel, J. Smith.
2 Duke of Leeds, J. Sutcliff.
3 Lodge's Briton, J. Smith,
4 Hepworth's Leader, I. Clayton.
5 Hamlet, J. Sutcliff.
6 Jolly Dragoon, I. Clayton.
7 Admiral Curzon, J. Smith.
8 Hepworth's Briton, J. Sutcliff.

Pink Bizarres.

1 Nulli Secundus, J. Smith.
2 Wales's Misfortune, I. Clayton.
3 Caxton, J. Smith.
4 Duke of Bedford, ditto.
5 Milton, I. Clayton.
6 Paul Pry, J. Smith.
7 Taylor's William IV., ditto.
8 Bloomsbury, J. Speak.

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Wilson's William IV., J. Sutcliff.
2 Buckley's Scarlet, I Clayton.
3 Claudiana, ditto.
4 First West York, J. Smith.
5 Beauty of Brighouse, I. Clayton.
6 Chadwick's Brilliant, J. Smith.
7 Captain Ross, ditto.
8 Puff's Lady Hill, ditto.

Purple Flakes.

1 Squire Meynell, J. Smith.
2 Bellerophon, J Sutcliff.
3 Princess Charlotte, I. Clayton.
4 Beauty of Woodhouse, ditto.
5 Duc de Bronte, J. Smith.
6 Lady Peel, ditto.
7 Mango, J. Speak.
8 Waterloo, ditto.

Rose Flakes.

1 Ely's Lady Ely, J. Sutcliff.
2 Marquis of Westminster, I. Clayton.
3 Fair Flora, J. Smith.
4 Miss Walker, dito.
5 Elliott's Martha, ditto.
6 Lady Gardiner, ditto.
7 Lady Gray, ditto.
8 Duchess of Devonshire, ditto.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 William the Conqueror, J. Sutcliff.
2 Mrs. Horner, I. Clayton.
3 Marc Antony, J. Sutcliff.
4 Sharpe's Duke of Wellington, I. Clayton.

Light edged Red.

1 Mrs. Horner, J. Smith.
2 Countess de Gray, ditto.
3 Wells's Anacreon, ditto.
4 William the Conqueror, I. Clayton.

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Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Nulli Secundus, I. Clayton.
2 Mrs. Lilly, J. Smith.
3 Field Marshal, I. Clayton.
4 Cross's Queen Victoria, ditto.

Light-edged Purple.
1 Field Marshal, J. Smith.
2 Mrs. Fenton, I. Clayton.
3 Nulli Secundus, J. Smith.
4 Favourite, ditto.

WEST RIDING CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY,

Tuesday, August 20.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Sir R. Peel, Mr. Marchant.
2 Admiral Curzon, Mr. Farrer.
3 Emperor, ditto.
4 Huntsman, ditto.
5 Leader, Mr. Clayton.
6 Old Frank (seedling), Mr. Marchant.
7 Leader, Mr. Jackson.
8 Lodge's Briton, Mr. Chapman.
9 Jolly Dragoon, ditto.
10 Fire King (seedling), Mr. Chadwick.

Pink Bizarres.
1 Paul Pry, Mr. Farrer.
2 Nulli Secundus, Mr. Smith.
3 Lord Milton, Mr. Chapman.
4 Sir C. Napier (seedling), ditto.
5 Wales's Misfortune, Mr. Clayton.
6 Don Quixotte, Mr. Marchant.
7 Duke of Bedford, Mr. Chapman.
8 Alfred (seedling), Mr. Marchant.
9 Duchess of Kent, Mr. Hartley.
10 Jubilee (seedling), Mr. Marchant.

Scarlet Flakes.
1 William IV., Mr. Smith.
2 Gunnery's Brilliant, Mr. Chadwick.
3 Marquis of Granby, Mr. Chapman.
4 Queen of Trumps (seed.), Mr. Steel.
5 Buckley's Scarlet, Mr. Clayton.
6 First West York, Mr. Chapman.
7 Blucher (seedling), Mr. Marchant.
8 Claudiana, Mr. Clayton.
9 Knox (seedling), Mr. Marchant.
10 Glory (seedling), Mr. Steel.

Rose Flakes.
1 Lady Ely, Mr. Chapman.
2 Aglaia (seedling), Mr. Jackson.
3 Manœuvrer (seedling), Mr. Marchant
4 Rebecca (seedling), Mr. Chadwick.
5 Lady Gardiner, Mr. Mansley.
6 Lady Flora Hastings, Mr. Hartley.
7 Lovely Ann, Mr. Steel.
8 Beauty of Skircotes (seedling), Mr. Mansley.
9 Queen Victoria, Mr. Farrer.
10 Bullock's Juliet, Mr. Chadwick.

Purple Flakes.
1 Chuttur Singh (seedling), Mr. Chapman.
2 Henry Hunt (seedling), Mr. Marchant.
3 Squire Meynell, Mr. Smith.
4 Mango, Mr. Farrer.
5 Wm. Pitt (seedling), Mr. Marchant.
6 Gay Wench (seedling), ditto.
7 Bellerophon, Mr. Chapman.
8 Mr. Jepson (seedling), Mr. Jackson.
9 Queen Victoria, Mr. Farrer.
10 Enchantress, ditto.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.
1 Headley's King James, Mr. Jackson.
2 Mrs. Horner, Mr. Chadwick.
3 Sir R. Sale, Mr. Hartley.
4 Duke of Wellington, Mr. Clayton.
5 Privateer, Mr. Jackson.
6 Sir W. Middleton, ditto.
7 Wm. Stutely, Mr Smith.
8 Marc Antony, Mr. Clayton.
9 Wonder (seedling), Mr. Steel.
10 Headley's King James, Mr. Chadwick.

Light-edged Red.
1 Mrs. Horner, Mr. Farrer.
2 Sir R. Sale, Mr. Gill.
3 Miss Binns (seedling), Mr. Jackson.
4 Wells's Anacreon, Mr. Smith.
5 Miss Bacon, Mr. Farrer.
6 Sir R. Sale, Mr. Jackson.
7 Rosebud (seedling), Mr. Chadwick.
8 Countess de Gray, Mr. Smith.
9 Sharpe's Hector, Mr. Chadwick.
10 Mrs. Sykes (seedling), Mr. Gill.

Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Queen Victoria, Mr. Chapman.
2 Mrs. Lilly, Mr. Steel.
3 Nulli Secundus, Mr. Smith.
4 Ely's Favourite, Mr. Chapman.
5 Shrog's Beauty (seedling), ditto.
6 Susanna (seedling), Mr. Mansley.
7 Field Marshal, ditto.
8 President, Mr. Chadwick.
9 Princess Alice, Mr. Mansley.
10 Mrs. Lilly, Mr. Smith.

Light-edged Purple.
1 Miss Emma, Mr. Chadwick.
2 Miss Lucy (seedling), Mr. Chapman.
3 Eliza Cook (seedling), Mr. Jackson.
4 Miss Sarah (seedling), ditto.
5 Kirtland's Victoria, Mr. Gill.
6 Mrs. Rigley (seedling), Mr. Jackson.
7 Blue Perfect, Mr. Farrer.
8 Henrietta (seedling), Mr. Jackson.
9 Agnes (seedling), Mr. Mansley.
10 Favourite, Mr. Smith.

Seedlings recommended.

Scarlet Bizarre—Emperor, Mr. J. Farrer. *Pink Bizarre*—Sir C. Napier, Mr. Chapman. *Scarlet Flake*—Queen of Trumps, Mr. J. Steels. *Purple Flakes*—

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Henry Hunt, Mr F. Marchant; Chuttur Singh, Mr. J. Chapman. *Rose Flakes*—Aglaia, Mr. J. Jackson; Minerva, Mr. F. Marchant; Beauty of Skircotes, Mr. Mansley. *Purple Picotees*—Mrs. Wrigley, Mr. J. Jackson; Susanna, Mr. Mansley. *Scarlet Picotee*—Eliza Cook, Mr. Chadwick.

The judges for seedlings were—Mr. B. Ely, Mr. J. Gill, Mr. J. Smith, and Mr. S. Hartley.

DAHLIA SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Marsden, the Sun Inn, Chesterfield, September 28.

Six Blooms.—1. Duke of Wellington, Queen of Sheba, Admiral Stopford, Beeswing, Lady Sale, and The Hero, W. Barlow. 2. Black Prince, Standard of Perfection, Duke of Wellington, Mr. Seldon, Princess Radsville, and Marchioness of Cornwallis, J. Marsden. 3. Beeswing, Shylock, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Lady Sale, Admiral Stopford, Marquis of Aylesbury, W. Tomlinson.

Dark.

1 Admiral Stopford, W. Barlow.
2 Essex Triumph, J. Marsden.
3 Unknown, W. Barlow.
4 Black Prince, J. Marsden.
5 Admiral Stopford, W. Barlow.
6 Berryer, W. Bacon.

Crimson.

1 Louis Philippe, W. Barlow.
2 Standard of Perfection, J. Marsden.
3 Louis Philippe, W. Barlow.
4 Beeswing, ditto.
5 Sir Edmund Antrobus, W. Tomlinson.
6 Capt. Warner, W. Bacon.

Scarlet.

1 Shylock, W. Tomlinson.
2 Nonpareil, W. Slack, gardener.
3 Shylock, W. Bacon.
4 Scarlet Gem, W. Slack, potter.
5 Box, W. Barlow.
6 Scarlet Unique, W. Bacon.

Lilac and Rose.

1 Fearless, W. Slack, potter.
2 Mrs. Shelley, W. Slack, gardener.
3 Mrs. Anderson, W. Slack, potter.
4 Fearless, ditto.
5 Marquis of Aylesbury, W. Bacon.
6 Athlete, E. Morley.

Orange.

1 Duke of Wellington, W. Barlow.
2 Ditto, J. Marsden.
3 Gloria Mundi, ditto.
4 Biondetta, W. Bacon.
5 Aurantia, W. Barlow.
6 Toisson d'Or, J. Marsden.

Yellow.

1 Crocus, J. Marsden.
2 Yellow Standard, W. Slack.
3 Cleopatra, W. Bacon.
4 Crocus, J. Marsden.
5 Canary, W. Barlow.
6 Seedling, E. Morley.

Tipped and Fancy.

1 Princess Radzville, W. Bacon.
2 Queen of England, W. Slack.
3 Bragg's Star, ditto.
4 General Cavaignac, J. Walton.
5 Lady Sale, W. Slack, gardener.
6 Lady of the Lake, W. Barlow.

Blush and White.

1 Queen of Sheba, W. Tomlinson.
2 Unknown, W. Bacon.
3 Queen of Sheba, W. Barlow.
4 Marchioness of Cornwallis, J. Marsden.
5 Antagonist, W. Barlow.
6 Duchess, W. Slack, potter.

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